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Imams sound call for Syrian sponsorship

REFUGEE CRISIS

Muslim leaders gathering to cut through barriers



Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

Local imams in Ottawa are urging members of the Muslim faith to sponsor Syrian refugees or donate to the cause, as the city looks for ways to help resettlement efforts.

Imam Anver Malam has been delivering the message in his sermons, generating a "huge interest" from members of the Jami Omar Mosque near Bells Corners.

"Regardless of their religion, they are human beings," he said, of the roughly three million Syrians who have fled civil war in their country.

The South Nepean Muslim

Community is not yet accredited to sponsor refugees, but has partnered with the accredited Barrhaven United Church.

Imam Zejad Delic said several members of his congregation are ready to sponsor Syrian families, but government red tape has made it difficult.

Imams in the city have been meeting and working on ways to cut through it.

"At one point in time, we were all refugees or immigrants. We know how it feels when you come here," Delic said.

"We want to make it easier, at least for one person, one family."

According to Toronto-based Lifeline Syria, a group would need to raise \$27,000 to cover the expenses and startup costs for a family of four.

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson is hosting a forum on Syrian refugees on Thursday, Oct. 1, at city hall starting at 5 p.m.

There, community members can learn more about sponsorship.



TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

EVENT HELD AT MINTO PARK TO
DRAW ATTENTION TO VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN metroNEWS

JOE LOFARO/METRO

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‘Cowards’ ruin mural: Artist

HATE CRIME

Vandals scrawl a ‘warning’ on trans women’s memorial



A mural painted as a tribute to trans women of colour, including the names of murdered trans women, was vandalized overnight with violent graffiti.

The words “racist bulls—” and “All lives matter. No double standard. You’ve been warned” were written with red spray paint at the intersection of Bank and Somerset streets.

Kalkidan Assefa, a local artist who has worked on other anti-racist murals in Ottawa, created the mural during the 30th anniversary of the city’s Capital Pride celebrations last month. It was a collaboration with anti-racism activist group, Blak Collectiv.

“Whoever did this, they’re cowards because they’re going around in the dark at night and they’re not willing to publicly come and say whatever they feel,” said Assefa, as others worked on covering up the threatening messages.

“I think it’s disappointing, it’s sad, it’s frustrating. It’s not the first time work that we’ve done in the city has been attacked like this along some racial lines.”

He said he worked on another mural, one that hon-



Artist Kalkidan Assefa stands next to his painting which was marred with the words “All lives matter. No double standard. You’ve been warned.” JOE LOFARO / METRO

oured Sandra Bland, which was also defaced with the words “all lives matter” in July. Writing all lives matter on a mural dedicated to Black people is inherently problematic because it’s an erasure, he said.

“We’ve already dealt with it with the Sandra Bland (mural) where you can’t say ‘all lives matter’ while you’re literally defacing and disrespecting the face of a dead woman. And then here we have the names of these murdered people and then you’re coming and writing ‘all lives matter’ as if they’re

lives don’t matter all over their names,” said Assefa.

He added whoever is responsible needs to be better educated on the significance of the “Black lives matter” movement.

Before the vandalism took place, Coun. Catherine Mc-

Kenney and members of the community were trying to find a permanent home for the mural.

McKenney came to see the mural in person Wednesday afternoon as it was being covered up in white paint. She called it “one of the most

beautiful murals” in her neighbourhood.

She said she contacted Ottawa police as soon as she learned what had happened to it Wednesday morning.

“It was hugely distressing when I first saw the mural. It was a point of pride for many people,” said McKenney.

“I believe it is hate-motivated. There’s a level of violence here that’s frightening and we have got people in our community who are more marginalized who are more at risk of violence. Certainly trans

women.”

Ottawa police said they are investigating since a complaint was filed early Thursday afternoon.

There is a hate crime section of Ottawa police, but spokesman Const. Marc Soucy said officers at the scene must investigate the mural first before they consider whether or not to pass it on to the specialized unit.

Police will have to consider, among other things, what the motive was behind the incident before ruling it as a hate crime, said Soucy.

“You can’t say ‘all lives matter’ while you’re literally defacing and disrespecting the face of a dead woman.”

Kalkidan Assefa, local artist and activist



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THINGS TO DO IN OTTAWA THIS WEEKEND

With the weather straddling cool fall mornings and still-summer blistering afternoons, we can hardly figure out how to dress ourselves these days. This weekend, ditch the blazer, keep the shorts and head to these capital region events.

LUCY SCHOLEY METRO



1 Nighttime bike ride

Spruce up your bike spokes with a colour wheel light and pedal the Tour La Nuit ride on Friday night. It's a 20-kilometre nighttime ride from Ottawa City Hall to the Experimental Farm and back. The best part: the route is closed to car traffic so cyclists can safely pedal under the stars. The ride starts at 7:30 p.m.



COURTESY COREY GRAHAM

2 Whiskey Ottawa Festival

Swill, sniff and sip more than \$10,000 worth of whiskeys from around the world. A \$100 ticket includes scotch, bourbon, rye and whiskey samplings with food. Dress "smart casual" and head to the Canadian War Museum for 7 p.m. on Saturday.



3 CD release parties

Not one, not two, but three Ottawa local musicians and bands are hosting first-time CD release parties this weekend. Multi-instrumentalist Lora Bidner, who has been compared to the likes of Imogen Heap, Regina Spektor and Florence and the Machine, will play from her debut solo album, *To the North*, at LIVE! On Elgin on Saturday, starting at 7:30 p.m. The John Punch Band and Jack Pine are hosting a dual release party for their respective new albums on Friday at St. Albans Church at 7:30 p.m.



4 Ottawa Food Truck Rally

Bring an empty belly and a pocketful of change to the Ottawa Food Truck Rally on Saturday. At least 16 mobile restaurants will be serving dinner from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the former St. Charles Church on 135 Barrette St. Tickets cost \$10 and proceeds will go to a culinary scholarship program at Algonquin College. Plates cost between \$4 and \$10 each.

5 Electronics recycling

Still holding on to that old Motorola flip phone? If your collection of electronics is piling up, dump the lot safely at 2197 Riverside Dr. on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.



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Campaign dirt could fly next week

ELECTION 2015

Bad behaviour may be used to advantage by opposing parties



POLITICAL BUZZ

Jessica Murphy

As of Monday, federal parties and their candidates are officially stuck with each other until election day.

That date marks the last day hopefuls can ask Elections Canada to withdraw their nomination — a deadline that raises the stakes for the federal parties in a race that's had its share of contenders dropping like flies after questionable past behaviour came to light.

Pee-gate anyone?

Scarborough voters are likely relieved that Tory candidate Jerry Bance was quickly ousted by the party after old footage of him urinating in a client's coffee mug was dredged up earlier this month.

Over the past few weeks, social media controversies quickly ended the short-lived political careers of a handful of other contenders.

But by next week, campaigns can't get trigger-happy if bad behaviour is exposed — and parties can use that to their advantage in an especially tight race.

"If a party had information



Jerry Bance, Conservative candidate for the Scarborough-Rouge Park riding in Toronto, is seen here emptying out a customer's coffee mug, into which he reportedly urinated.

CBC MARKETPLACE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

that they thought could seriously knock out a candidate in a riding that they hoped to win — if they had information on a main opponent — they may save it until that date to ensure they have a clear path to win the seat," one veteran party opposition researcher told Metro Ottawa.

"It would have to be fatal — it would have to be so bad you know the candidate is going to have to go — financial misdealings or something that's truly racist or sexist or homophobic that just doesn't pass anybody's smell test."

There is precedent.

In 2006, the Conservatives were stuck with candidate Derek Zeisman after a

background check failed to unearth that the British Columbia hopeful faced charges after being caught trying to smuggle 112 bottles of booze across the Canada-U.S. border. (He later pleaded guilty to one count of smuggling.)

The news forced Conservative Leader Stephen Harper to disown Zeisman, promising he wouldn't be allowed to sit as an MP if he were indeed elected.

He wasn't.

The once-tight race ended in a blowout win for NDP MP Alex Atamanenko — who's not running again this year — and brought to a halt a winning streak for right-wing candidates in the riding.

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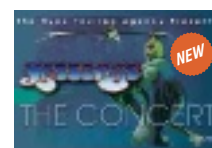


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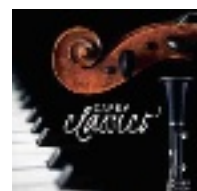
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- Classic Albums Live: Supertramp – Crime of the Century**
OCTOBER 24, 2015 - 8 P.M.
- Café Classico – G'froerer and Gott**
NOVEMBER 8, 2015 - 1 P.M.
- Yes Songs: The Concert**
NOVEMBER 19, 2015 - 8 P.M.

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NOVEMBER 28, 2015 - 2 P.M. & 4 P.M.
- Kinderconcert – Records on the Run**
FEBRUARY 20, 2016 - 4 P.M.
- Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat**
FEBRUARY 26, 2016 - 7 P.M.
FEBRUARY 27, 2016 - 2 P.M.
- Kinderconcert – Stradivarius' Secret**
APRIL 9, 2016 - 4 P.M.

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POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

Doc asks how to get youth voting at last



Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

It's an oft-asked question without a simple answer: Why don't young people vote?

A new hour-long documentary, *The Drop: Why Young People Don't Vote*, screening at Carleton University next week, takes a run at the problem.

"Young people do seem to care about the world and yet they ignore that one thing right in front of their eyes, which is their ability to vote," said Kyle McCachen, the film's 29-year-old director and co-producer.

Voter turnout among 18- to 24-year-olds in the 2011 federal election was 39 per cent, well below the national turnout of 61 per cent.

Vancouver-based McCachen and interviewer Dylan Playfair, 22, set out to various Canadian cities — including Ottawa — to figure out why that was.

They also travelled to Ferguson, Mo., after the police shooting of unarmed teenager Michael Brown to gauge the effect of a tragedy on young people's political engagement.

"What young people want

is they want more connectivity, they want to be more involved in politics if they're going to vote in the first place," McCachen said.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau appears in the film, as does NDP Leader Tom Mulcair. The film is being marketed as "about millennials, created by millennials."

"We're trying to teach others when they watch this film that if they were to look at voting as part of a process — or something they would learn to incorporate into who they are, and not just a single act — it would be easier to vote and partake in our community," McCachen said.

"The takeaway for us was that there are a lot of things you can do," he said. "There are young people who are doing things, and they care."

The film screens at Carleton University on Sept. 29 at 5 p.m. McCachen and film subjects Morgan Baskin, who ran for mayor of Toronto at age 19, and Maalik Shakoor, an activist from Ferguson, will be there.

The documentary will later be shown on TVO on Oct. 5 at 9 p.m. and is being broadcast nationally on CPAC on Oct. 11 at 11 p.m.



Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau is one of the politicians interviewed in *The Drop*, screening next week. CONTRIBUTED

All candidates to face off

OTTAWA SOUTH

No problem to fill auditorium for the debate, says organizer

Have a burning question? Puzzled by a party's platform?

Candidates seeking to represent the Ottawa South riding will be in the hot seat at an all-

candidates' debate on Oct. 8.

The public forum is being co-hosted by five community associations representing Canterbury, Alta Vista, Riverview Park, Faircrest Heights and Hunt Club, as well as the South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre.

Residents, and even some candidates, have been asking whether a debate is in the works — which is a good sign, said John Marshall, president

of the Canterbury Community Association, which has organized candidates' debates in the leadup to past elections.

"I have no doubt that we're going to fill that auditorium quite easily," he said.

"There's a lot of interest in this election. It's the first time in a long time that we've seen a legitimate three-way race in the country, which interests a lot of people.

"There's a bit of a buzz. Now,

whether that translates into people actually leaving their couches and going to the voting booth — that remains to be seen," said Marshall.

Debates can help make that happen.

John Sankey, president of the Hunt Club Community Organization, said the event will allow people to get a better sense of the people behind the names on ballots.

ERIN MCCracken/METROLAND MEDIA

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Ottawa City Coun. Marianne Wilkinson, right, wants the city to preserve existing lines for expansion. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

Wilkinson wants tracks converted

TRANSPORTATION

O-Train-style light rail to Kanata a future possibility

Kanata North Coun. Marianne Wilkinson is hoping the city will move to preserve existing rail lines so they could eventually be converted into an O-Train-like transit system, she said at a community meeting on Sept. 14.

Though Wilkinson said she has yet to broach the subject at city hall, she said existing rail conversion could be quicker and cheaper than light rail transit.

The idea of using existing rail for commuter train use was recommended by former Ottawa mayor Larry O'Brien's taskforce on transportation in 2007, and has continued to receive support, including during 2014's city elections where a mayoral candidate and several councillor candidates pushed for existing rail use over light rail transit.

In a subsequent interview, Wilkinson said she is not suggesting an existing rail transit system could replace the light rail transit plan, but that it could complement the electrified train system.

However, as a light rail transit connection to Kanata is not due until 2031 at the earliest, converting existing rail for diesel train use could be a quicker, cheaper way of getting Kanata and Nepean some commuter train service in the meantime, she said.

Then again, getting light rail transit to Kanata sooner is preferable, said Wilkinson, who admitted she doesn't have a good idea of when an existing rail system could be up and running.

"I just think it should be in the master plan," she said of the diesel option.

Wilkinson had opposed the existing rail idea multiple times at candidates' events in the 2014 election, but said some new information has convinced her it's an opportunity the city shouldn't overlook.

ADAM KVETON/METROLAND MEDIA

QUEEN'S PARK

Motion approved for gender-neutral forms

Ontario lawmakers have approved a motion to remove the words "mother" and "father" from all government forms to "reflect the diverse nature" of families in the province.

Glenn Thibeault, the Liberal member of the Ontario legislature for Sudbury, asked that "gendered" terminology be replaced with gender-neutral and inclusive language on 10,000 different provincial government forms.

Birth certificates already al-

low two same-sex adults to be listed as parents, and all government forms should use inclusive language, said Thibeault.

His motion, which was approved Thursday in a voice vote, said gender-specific words "including — but not limited to — mother and father" could be replaced with "parent or guardian" to better recognize the rights of LGBTQ parents.

"This motion isn't about saying that using terms that indicate a gender such as mother

or father are bad or offensive, just that they aren't always a reflection of today's Ontario families and more appropriate terminology ought to be used," Thibeault told the legislature. "This is about being inclusive."

Two Liberal cabinet ministers and the New Democrats spoke in favour of Thibeault's motion, which is not binding, but widespread support for such a move by a government backbencher often leads to action.

The Progressive Conserva-

tives said Thibeault's motion shouldn't exclude the gender-specific terms already in use on government forms.

Thibeault, who is a former New Democrat MP, said the government forms would only be changed with the more inclusive language as they are updated or replaced. He said his motion would apply to everything from school registration forms and adoption papers to student loan applications.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Police deliver 80 tickets for distracted driving

Ottawa police issued nearly 80 tickets for distracted driving and other offences, as well as 33 warnings, on Wednesday, Sept. 23 as part of the Leave the Phone Alone campaign.

The special traffic unit conducted a city-wide

enforcement blitz to target drivers using their cell phones. In total, 39 provincial offence notices were given out for cell phone use, 37 for other related offences and 33 other warnings. As of Sept. 1, the fine for using a cell phone while driving is \$490 and three demerit points. METRO





Partyrobics teacher Lucie Coppens makes exercise feel more like clubbing in her fitness class. TREVOR GREENWAY/FOR METRO

Everybody exercise now

FITNESS

'Partyrobics' class is gonna make you sweat



Trevor Greenway
Metro | Ottawa

Lucie Coppens is poised to make clubbers in Ottawa better dancers — while getting them in shape.

Her new Partyrobics class combines EDM music, trippy lights and intense dance moves — everything you would want in a fitness class.

"It's completely different from other programs because it's really like fitness, aerobics, dance and all in a clubbing atmosphere," says Coppens.

And when she says a clubbing atmosphere, she means it. The room is dark, the music is far too loud for conversations and the club lights add a deceitful

element that tells your mind, "I'm not working out, I'm having fun."

Part of the allure is the atmosphere. It isn't a typical fitness class where some may feel out of place among those in better shape. The only thing visible are the silhouettes of people dancing to the same beat — and that's just what Coppens wants.

"The darkness is so that people don't feel judged, they just express themselves and they don't look at others," she says. "In classic dance class, it's more of the teacher showing you the steps. It's hard to get the steps and you only start having fun once you get it. Here, you have really basic and easy steps, so you can really get it easily and then you can dance your own way."

If you don't like her club shimmy, or her twitch pop-and-locks, you can come with your own routine and just go crazy to really loud, thumping beats.

"You really feel different emotions during different music,"

says Coppens, adding that dancers can burn 600 calories in an hour-long class. "We try to make routines that will make you feel more confident or more sexy or happy."

I did feel pretty happy nailing all of her steps down within a few minutes, but I wouldn't exactly say I felt sexy — perhaps after a few more classes. I was out of breath and sweating buckets after about three minutes of the workout. And, come on, sometimes it's just fun to dance.

Partyrobics runs every Tuesday and Friday in the Glebe Fitness Centre at 7 p.m., but Coppens is hoping to spread out to more clubs across the city, and even including live DJs and workout sessions inside real clubs.

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For more information, visit www.facebook.com/Partyrobicsinottawa.

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A woman with long brown hair is wearing a leopard print button-down shirt. She is looking directly at the camera. The background is plain white.

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A woman with long, wavy brown hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a blue, textured, underwire bra. Her right hand is raised, touching her hair. The background is plain white.

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Tory MPP's bid to cap 'death tax' fails

POLITICS

NDP votes with Liberals to defeat bill

An attempt by a Progressive Conservative member of the legislature to roll back and cap Ontario's "death tax" failed Thursday.

PC Monte McNaughton's private member's bill would have

capped the province's estate administration tax, which he calls a death tax, at \$3,250, regardless of the size of the estate. Estate taxes in Alberta are about \$400 and in Quebec just \$100, so \$3,250 is hardly too low a cap, said McNaughton.

"This is a vulgar, heartless tax," he said. "This morbid tax means we are being taxed to death at death and after death."

Ontario's tax is \$5 per thousand for the first \$50,000 of an

estate, and \$15 for each \$1,000 after that, so a \$1 million estate would pay \$14,500.

The "death tax" on grieving families amounts to another government cash grab of about \$143 million a year, McNaughton told the legislature. The tax can amount to tens of thousands of dollars on farms and small businesses, which McNaughton said can force the next generation to sell.

The Liberals made significant

changes to the estate tax this year, including the threat of fines and jail time for trustees if an assessment isn't filed within 90 days, said McNaughton.

The New Democrats agreed the 90-day limit to provide an itemized account of the estate is too onerous on grieving families. However, the NDP didn't like the proposed cap on the estate tax, so they joined with the Liberals to defeat the bill.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Progressive Conservative Monte McNaughton tabled a bill to try to undo the Liberals' estate tax changes. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BYELECTION SCANDAL

Police lay charges against Lougheed

Premier Kathleen Wynne is facing calls by the opposition to step down after police laid criminal charges against a Liberal fundraiser in connection with a byelection in Sudbury, Ont.

Gerry Lougheed, a prominent Sudbury Liberal, was charged Thursday with one count of counselling an offence not committed and one count of unlawfully influencing or negotiating appointments.

The charges follow a Ontario Provincial Police investigation launched after Andrew Olivier, the Liberal candidate in the 2014 general election, said he was offered an appointment to step aside in the Feb. 5 byelection for Wynne's preferred candidate, former New Democrat MP Glenn Thibeault.

Olivier released recorded telephone conversations with Lougheed, whom he describes as "a Liberal king maker" and with Wynne's deputy chief of staff, Pat Sorbara, in which he said he was asked if he wanted a job or an appointment.

The charges were announced just minutes before the daily question period in the Ontario legislature.

"This case strikes right at the heart of the premier's office," said Progressive Conservative critic Jeff Yurek. "Will the premier step aside while these charges are before the courts?"

Deputy Premier Deb Matthews ignored Yurek's demand, but told the legislature that the OPP had advised Sorbara's lawyer that she will not face charges in connection with the byelection.

"This matter is before the courts and we will have no further comment," Matthews said. "We co-operated fully with the police and we trust the court system to do its work in a fully independent way."

Wynne always maintained the Liberals were just trying to keep Olivier in the party fold, and that there was no need to offer him a job or appointment to step aside because she had already decided he was not going to be the candidate in the byelection. Thibeault won the byelection for the Liberals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Gerry Lougheed. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Take Back the Night vigil draws large crowd

More than 100 people gathered in Ottawa's Minto Park Thursday night for a Take Back the Night vigil, an annual event to raise the awareness about all forms of violence against women.

This year's event comes two days after the brutal murder of three women in the Ottawa Valley allegedly

committed by the same man. The accused in that case, 57-year-old Bail Borutski, was known to his alleged victims.

Deputy police chief Jill Skinner, Somerset Coun. Catherine McKenney, and Ottawa-Centre MP Paul Dewar showed their support at the rally on Thursday.

JOE LOFARO/METRO



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Like daughters, like electioneers

CAMPAIGN

Political rivals juggle common demands of parenthood



POLITICAL BUZZ

Jessica Murphy

Two senior campaign staff in Ottawa-Vanier — one a Liberal, the other a Conservative — are in a unique situation.

Their young daughters have been friends for years, even sharing the same first name.

So while they work in rival camps in the Ottawa riding and don't see eye-to-eye on politics, they've found common ground on the challenges of juggling parenthood with the demands of a local campaign.

Stephanie Delorme, campaign manager for Conservative candidate David Piccini,

and Mona Fortier, co-chair of Liberal incumbent Mauril Belanger's campaign, say they agree that friendship and family are key to getting through the tough slog of a long election.

And they say it's important to remember that there's a life after Oct. 19.

Fortier, a campaign veteran, said she offered Delorme — a campaign neophyte — some hard-earned advice when she dropped her daughter off for a play date early in the election.

Her tips: "Make sure you eat well, you sleep — because it's going to be a very long campaign — and every day is yes, fulfilling, but don't burn out at the beginning."

Delorme said that now that she understands the rigours of managing a campaign — high-stress work that often demands long hours — she appreciates the fact Fortier has three of them under her belt and respects her commitment to her work.



Friendship isn't based on who you believe in, it's based on your values.

Mona Fortier

And while she doesn't back Fortier's candidate, "I care for her as a person and I think it's great she's pursuing her passion and doing what she thinks is right."

Both women also say they try to get in as much family time as they can, even if that means bringing their kids along to put up lawn signs.

Piccini, along with New Democrat Emilie Taman, are challenging Belanger in the long-time Grit stronghold. Belanger has held the seat since 1995.

While the odds are in Belanger's favour, he's facing one of the toughest races of his career.



CONFERENCE TORONTO MAYOR SPEAKS OUT Toronto Mayor John Tory speaks at the big city mayors' conference in Toronto, Thursday, as (left to right) Toronto councillor Ana Bailao, Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson, and Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson look on. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Police charge city cab driver with mischief

Ottawa police charged a taxi driver Thursday after he allegedly attacked another cabbie's car on the Airport Parkway last month.

The incident happened on Aug. 13 around 4 p.m. when a taxi driver picked up a fare in the 1000 block of Airport Parkway Private and tried to leave.

The driver was soon surrounded by men on foot and in other taxi vehicles who shouted at him as he attempted to drive away, according to police.

The group blocked the complainant from driving forward and then another taxi driver, as well as other men, damaged his cab.

Najil Mankal, 58, was charged with mischief over \$5,000.

Ottawa police continue to investigate the incident and are collecting evidence. Charges will be laid if warranted.

Anyone with information is asked to call Ottawa Police Service at 613-236-1222, extension 3566. JOE LOFARO

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What it costs to feed a family

BUDGETING

Minimum has actually gone down by 4% since last year



Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

A family of four in Ottawa can survive off a bare minimum of \$835 a month on groceries, according to Ottawa Public Health.

That's the magic number the city arrived at in its annual Nutritious Food Basket survey, released on Thursday. Ottawa Public Health visited 10 grocery stores and averaged out the cost of 67 food products based on the Canada Food Guide.

Oddly, the monthly food budget has decreased by about four per cent since last year.

Sherry Nigro, the city's Manager of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, was scratching her head over that. As it turns out, the price of some foods, such as mozzarella cheese, cabbage and even chick-

“For families who are on low- and fixed-incomes, food security is a really serious and a very real problem in Ottawa.”

Sherry Nigro

en legs, has decreased since last year.

As a result, a family of four could spend a scant \$208.75 a week on groceries. That does cover a fairly lengthy grocery list — but is it enough for two adults and two school-aged children?

“For the people who don't worry about income, they know that they probably spend a lot more than that on food,” Nigro said.

“But for people who are on a fixed income or a low income ... you can't afford to feed a family of four, much less pay for your phone bill and your transportation and your child care.”

+ WHAT \$208.75 A WEEK WOULD COVER



Dairy:

- Two per cent milk (four litres): \$4.06

- Partly skimmed mozzarella cheese (200 grams): \$2.65

- Cheddar cheese (200 grams): \$3.22

- Fruity yogurt (750 grams): \$4.06

Meat and other protein:

- A dozen eggs: \$2.91

- Chicken legs (one kilogram): \$4.94

- Sliced ham (175 grams): \$2.95

- Lean ground beef (one kilogram): \$11.91

- A can of baked beans in tomato sauce: \$1.02

- Dry-roasted peanuts (700 grams): \$5.04

- Peanut butter: \$3.25

- Pork loin (one kilogram): \$11.24

- Frozen fish (400 grams): \$5.17

Fruits and vegetables (in one kilogram portions):

- Apples: \$2.84

- Bananas: \$1.57

- Grapes: \$7.43

- Oranges: \$3.06

- Cabbage: \$1.75

- Cucumber: \$3.10

- Celery: \$2.65

- Carrots: \$2.00

Grains:

- Whole wheat bread: \$2.24

- Bran cereal with raisins: \$5.20



Fast just got faster.

The much-anticipated tunnel at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is now open. When you're heading to the city from your Porter plane, zip along the moving sidewalk that is ready whenever you are. No waiting, no fuss.

And yes, the ferry is still available for you if you prefer the 90-second lake cruise.

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Is there a more divisive drink than the one made from seasonal gourds? JORDAN DUFF/METRO

It's that pumpkin beer time of year

ALCOHOL

Oktoberfest is a great excuse to celebrate seasonal brews

THE BOTTLENECK

Jordan Duff



To misquote Peanuts' Linus: "There are three things I have learned never to discuss with people: religion, politics and pumpkin beer." He's right. If there's a style that divides brewers and beer lovers alike, it's pumpkin beer.

One knock against this gourd-based brew is its popularity has resulted in seasonal creep. Much like Christmas decorations being sold in late August, this rubs folks the wrong way.

My first pumpkin beer sighting this year was a Black Creek Pumpkin Ale during the third

week of August. Not long after I found a Great Lakes Brewery Pumpkin Ale in an LCBO on a day when the humidity approached 40 C: I wasn't even looking for beer, I was escaping the heat in the beer cooler.

Seasonal creeps aside, I like these bottles of pumpkin pie pleasantness. And really, the flavours you will enjoy are more likely the familiar pie spices of cinnamon, nutmeg, clove and allspice rather than pumpkin itself.

Beau's Oktoberfest is Oct. 2 and 3 in Vankleek Hill: If you've never been, you better have a good excuse because it's a fantastic event of beer, food and music. At the time of this writing, Saturday is sold out and tickets for Friday are going fast.

Creemore will be celebrating Oktoberfest in Barrhaven from Oct. 1 to 3. Ottawa Rickshaws will be running a beer tour over the next four Thursdays – check their site for tickets.

Bicycle Craft Brewery is

turning one! To celebrate, they are throwing a Party in the Pen at Mugshots at the Ottawa Jail on Saturday Sept. 26, from 7 to 11 p.m. to support the CHEO Foundation.

Whipsnapr has begun canning their wares and will be coming to an LCBO near you!

Finally, the Ottawa brewing family got a little bigger last week with the addition of Hintonburg's Tooth & Nail Brewing.

I sampled their gamut of beers (selflessly, on behalf of my attractive readers...) and strongly recommend you go visit them at 3 Irving Ave.

+ LEARN MORE

To stay up-to-date on this season's best craft beers, keep reading The Bottleneck, Metro's bi-weekly coverage of Ottawa's burgeoning craft brewing scene.

To read past columns, visit www.metronews.ca.

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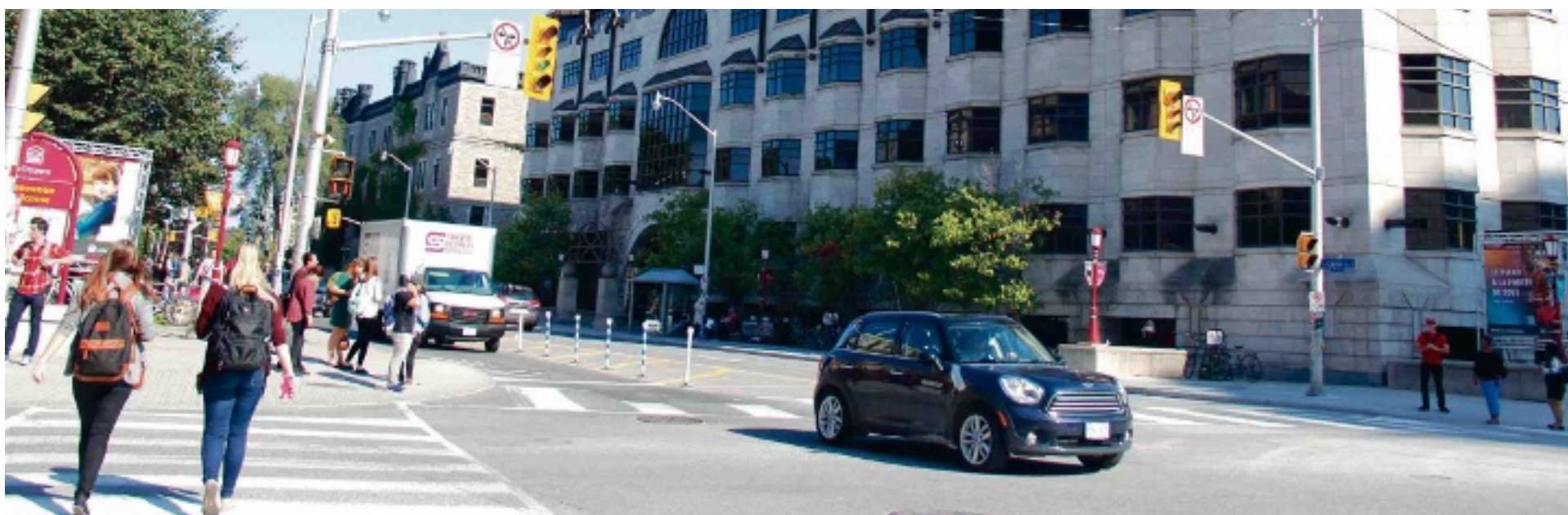
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Sandy Hill's main stretch, Laurier Avenue, is home to the University of Ottawa, cafés and restaurants. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

Sandy Hill a true mixed bag

Neighbourhood profiles 2015: In the fifth instalment of Metro's profiles, Lucy Scholey heads to Sandy Hill to find out what people are saying in this historic neighbourhood

Between rotating students, long-standing seniors and immigrants, Sandy Hill has long been home to a mix of transient and rooted residents.

But the diverse community — a proud label for many who live in the red-bricked homes or newer multiunit apartments between the Rideau Canal and the Rideau River — is nestled in a predictable federal riding.

Ottawa-Vanier has been a Liberal stronghold since its original boundaries formed in 1935.

And it looks like Liberal incumbent Mauril Belanger will win again.

He's expected to keep the riding with 47.4 per cent of the vote, according to poll-tracking website threehundredeight.com. However, Emilie Taman, who made headlines after she was fired from her federal public prosecutor job for running in the election, is a strong New Demo-

crat contender. David Piccini is the Conservative candidate.

Like many Canadians, there are Sandy Hill folks split on who they will tick off on Oct. 19 — if the scant smattering of election signs along Laurier Avenue is any indication.

Nationally, the latest polls, from Sept. 22, show the parties on a near-equal ground.

Threehundredeight.com showed Liberals barely leading with 30.5 per cent, the Conservatives a near second at 30.3 per cent and the NDP next at 29.7 per cent.

Like a political science lecture hall, Sandy Hill is buzzing with election talk.

On Wilbrod Street, T.A.N. Coffee draws a mix of students quietly focused on laptop screens and grey-haired Sandy Hill residents who regularly stop in for lunch. Those who pin up anti-Harper posters inside the café are likely

to meet those who tear them down. Though owner Erin Cochran has hosted NDP and Green Party meet-and-greets in the space, she said her doors are open to all political colours.

"We have a lot of politically motivated people in this neighbourhood," she said. "I try not to be partisan."

For that reason, she's more prone to listen to her patrons' political views than publicly dish. However, she said she might like to see a piece of Canada's 150th anniversary funding help small businesses renovate in time for the 2017 festivities.

Meanwhile, the owner of a neighbourhood convenience store was busy stocking his shelves for the fall influx of students. He said he does not trust any federal leader, but will look for what each party is promising small business owners.

"Most important — taxes," he

said, with a clipboard in hand. "Every year, it goes up, up, up."

Further down the road, an embassy employee taking a smoke break said he will vote with the economy in mind.

A senior-aged woman sitting outside Timothy's World Coffee with her dog on her lap said she's a staunch Green party supporter, but she approves of Belanger because he's present in the community.

The longtime Sandy Hill resident wants to see less focus on the middle class and more on poverty, noting her 28-year-old daughter could barely live on social assistance payments after

losing her job.

On a hyper-local level, development tops Sandy Hill issues. Although many buildings have largely remained unchanged since the 1920s, there

has been a crop of new edifices popping up over the past several years. Private developers have signalled their plans to convert old hotels, apartments and retirement homes into student housing.

Last March, the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) overturned a city council decision to scrap a controversial nine-storey student housing plan on the corner of Laurier Avenue East and Friel

Street. Six buildings will be demolished to make way for the building, which will accommodate 600 students.

Bob Forbes, vice-president of Action Sandy Hill, said he's hoping for federal funding to help post-secondary institutions like the University of Ottawa build more student housing on campus. He would rather the school accommodate its students, rather than see rooming houses pop up in his backyard.

With a new master plan, the University of Ottawa is planning just that, along with more pedestrian pathways.

Forbes is keeping a watchful eye on how his neighbourhood might transform over the next decade — and what role the federal candidates can play.

"What we want to do is make sure that it retains its balance," he said. "A lot of it is really about the heritage preservation."

A rotating crop of new students every fall gives the neighbourhood a burst of young energy each year, while the presence of several old homes — including many mansions-turned-embassies — tell an old story of Sandy Hill.

A brief history of the area

The beginning

Sandy Hill settled in the mid-1800s as a predominately residential neighbourhood. It was named for its hills and soil, which made it difficult to erect buildings. The Roman Catholic Church and Bytown College, which later became the University of Ottawa, were the pillars of the community.



Turn of the century

After Ottawa became Canada's capital, Sandy Hill underwent a housing boom in the late 1860s until the early 1920s. It was largely home to middle class civil servants and railway employees. The early 1900s was also the time when a former shooting range for battle training turned into Strathcona Park. Tourists and Ottawa residents alike have been visiting ever since.



Mid-century

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation built the Mann Avenue Project, which is now known as Strathcona Heights, 1947 to house an influx of Second World War veterans. Seven years later, the doors to St. Pius X Church opens to accommodate Sandy Hill's growing francophone population. It has since been deconsecrated.

Today

While the east end has largely stayed the same over the past 70 years, Sandy Hill's west end has changed due to the evolution of the University of Ottawa's campus and Highway 417. It's now home to a mix of students, seniors, families and embassies.



Street level: What is important to you this election?



"Tuition. It'd be nice if we had free tuition like Germany."

Stephane Marceau, 18, studying biology at the University of Ottawa



"I would definitely like to see investment in renewable energy. I think we're investing too much in oil and gas."

Olivia Chiasson, 19, biology major



"I'm from a middle-class family, so lowering taxes for the middle class is important to me."

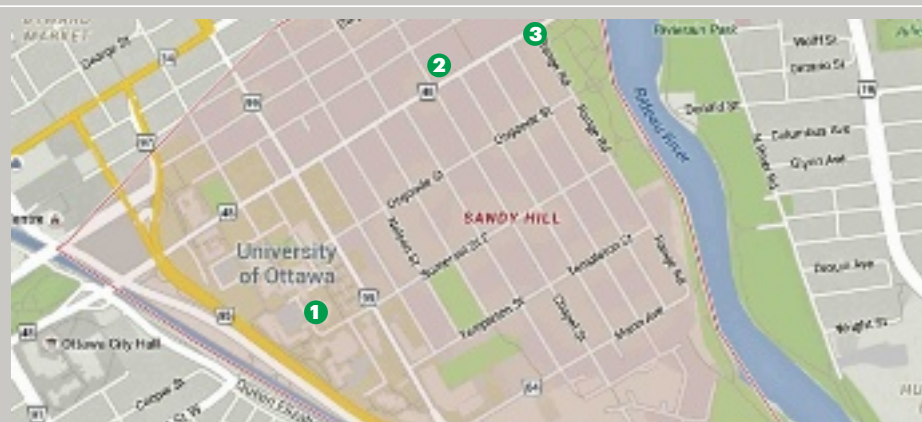
Connor Finucan, 20, communications major

+ QUICK GUIDE

Population: 11,220
Largest age group: 20-29 years old (33.7 per cent of residents)
Number of registered voters (2010 municipal election): 7,632
Unemployment: 6.9 per cent
Residents with post-secondary education: 70.2 per cent
Average value of owned dwelling: \$493,649
Number of social and affordable housing units: 1,070
Percentage of tenant households: 75.7 per cent (compared to 32.7 per cent average)
Percentage of people who did not move in the past year: 71.3
French as mother tongue: 20.2 per cent

Source: 2015 Ottawa Neighbourhoods Study

QUICK VIEW: Sandy Hill



1 University of Ottawa

Canada's oldest and largest bilingual educational institution opened doors in 1848 in Lowertown as the College of Bytown. It eventually moved to Sandy Hill and was renamed the College of Ottawa. In 1866, it earned university status. Today, it boasts more than 40,000 students.

2 Laurier House

This Victorian mansion was home to two former prime minister: Sir Wilfred Laurier and the Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King. Laurier first moved into the house with his wife in 1897. Lady Laurier left King the house in her will and the then-Liberal prime minister took possession in 1921.

3 Le Cordon Bleu

Canada's only campus for Le Cordon Bleu sits at the far end of Laurier Avenue East, near Strathcona Park. Wannabe chefs learn the art of French cuisine and patrons can taste the results at Le Cordon Bleu Bistro @ Signatures Restaurant.



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VOTER PROFILE

Name: Cory Nicotine **Age:** 26 **Riding:** Edmonton Manning
His issues: Energy, environment, First Nations rights, arts

A vote for the future of First Nations Canadians



ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
in Edmonton

"This is where everything changed for me."

Cory Nicotine sits in a hall-way at iHuman Youth Society in Edmonton, in the downtown neighbourhood known as the Quarters — home to parking lots and social-outreach groups, crime and Chinese restaurants — not far from scenic parks of the river valley.

This is the organization where he came for help when he got into petty trouble with the law, and was recruited for a theatre project that "gave me a voice that I never thought I had." iHuman made him a youth mentor, a community organizer, and led his political awakening.

"If there's one question I got, if I see any of the potential prime ministers," he says, "it would be: What would Canada look like for a young person like me, First Nations person, living on or underneath the minimum wage? What would it look like under their power or control?"

At 26, and though two federal elections have passed since he turned 18, this will be Nicotine's first time voting for Canada's next leader.

"I want to exercise my

right. It's something indigenous people never got to do before. It's one way we could voice our opinions."

Nicotine has worries, and he's hoping the election can bring solutions and answers. Are major oil pipelines safe? Who will get the royalties? And what does it mean for First Nations near the oilsands?

Nicotine wants to see an inquiry into missing-and-murdered indigenous women ("like everybody"), but where will the money come from? And will it be taken from funds that currently help First Nations? How can we help young people without jobs? What about affordable education?

He sees the big three political parties in broad strokes: Conservatives represent "high class, billionaire, millionaire people. Liberals: middle-class, family people. NDP is looking for people trying to come up and make it."

That's Nicotine, who grew up "with nothing, wearing the same shoes and same clothes for about a year." But he hasn't decided who to vote for, yet.

Nicotine has worked on an art project with the NDP candidate in his riding, Aaron Paquette, who he calls a good guy with a good heart. He'd been thinking NDP, "because

Jack Layton was a cool dude." But now, the party "is different from when Jack Layton ran it." He's not so sure about Tom Mulcair. He thinks Justin Trudeau also seems like a "good guy," and he likes the Liberals' plan to decriminalize marijuana, even though he doesn't smoke it.

He wants a Canada that stands for multiculturalism and welcomes refugees, that listens to the will of its indigenous peoples, that is a world leader in environmental protection.

As for federal politics impact on his own life, "I haven't seen much help from the government," he says. "I've lived on a reserve and I've lived in the city, and nothing, I feel, has gotten better."

But Nicotine, who is also a filmmaker, has had the opposite: what a government can take away. A few years ago, he was set to go to Africa, where he'd already been as a Canada World Youth leader, and make a documentary. Then the Conservatives cut arts funding. "It could have been a life-changing experience for me. There was so much I was hoping for in that."

Rosemary Westwood is travelling across the country talking to young voters. On Monday she'll be in Calgary.

Playing the vote-swapping market

Tight ridings have plenty to offer with the right strategy



Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Claire Nielsen is offering a trade: She'll (*gasp*) vote Liberal for you, if you'll vote Green or NDP for her.

Nielsen, a 21-year-old graphic-design student from the British Columbia riding of South Surrey-White Rock is looking for someone to vote-swap with.

"If you live in a riding that could go NDP or Green and you want to #voteswap hmu. Willing to vote NDP, Green, or (shudder) Liberal. #cdnpoli," she recently tweeted.

Nielsen would like to vote Green, or if not Green, then NDP, but she doesn't think either of those options are likely to count for much in South Surrey-White Rock.

"We've typically gone Conservative before, and that's what I'm trying to avoid," she

said. So in comes the political calculus.

A recent vote projection for her riding by threehundredeight.com, suggests the Liberals are most likely to unseat the incumbent Tories. So, if Nielsen can find a suitable swapping partner — that is, a Liberal supporter in a riding where the NDP or Greens are in a close race with the Conservatives — she would pledge to vote Liberal in her riding on her behalf of her swapping partner, in exchange for her partner's promise to vote NDP.

But Nielsen hasn't yet found a match. She's worried her riding isn't close enough.

In the vote-swapping marketplace, where a voter's value is measured by their ability to affect outcomes, those in safe ridings have little to offer. And given that this is largely an anti-Harper movement, voters in safe Conservative ridings are the least valuable of all.

Those who find themselves in Nielsen's shoes might have better luck checking out some of the vote-swapping websites that have cropped up during this campaign.

Jim Harris, a former leader

of the Green Party, runs one of them: voteswapping.ca. The site, which is expressly devoted to defeating the Conservatives, shows users who enter their postal code a rundown of some recent polling and predictions for their riding. NDP supporters living in swing ridings where the Conservatives are in a tight race with the Liberals, and Liberals supporters living in swing ridings where the Conservatives are in a tight race with the NDP are invited to swap.

Green supporters are invited to swap votes with NDP and Liberal supporters in the one riding where the Greens might win: Elizabeth May's riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands. (Some have credited vote-swapping for May's victory in 2011.)

Harris thinks it won't take too many vote-swappers to make a big difference.

"In 2011, Harper won his majority with 14 seats," he said, "and when you look at the difference between the Conservative winner and the second place in the 14 closest ridings, it's 6,201 votes."

"So about 6,000 votes out of about 11.8 million gave Harper his majority."

VISUALIZATION

Sample swapping scenarios



SCENARIO 1:

A Liberal supporter in Kootenay-Columbia

NDP: 37%
Conservatives: 37%
Liberals: 15%

swaps with

An NDP supporter in Eglinton-Lawrence

Liberals: 37%
Conservatives: 35%
NDP: 24%

SCENARIO 2:

A Liberal supporter in Saskatoon-University

NDP: 37%
Conservatives: 37%
Liberals: 22%

swaps with

An NDP supporter in Fredericton

Liberals: 37%
Conservatives: 32%
NDP: 20%

51

Ridings were decided by 5% or less in the 2011 election.



Mohamed Fahmy celebrates with his wife Marwa Omara after being released from Torah prison in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday. AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freedom is 'like being born again'

JAILED JOURNALIST

For Fahmy, battle for open press in Egypt continues

Mohamed Fahmy is filled with ideas for his future as a free man.

Mere hours after being released from a Cairo prison, the Canadian journalist who spent nearly two years fighting widely decried terror charges is eager to discuss the next stage of his fight for freedom of the press in Egypt.

"It's a whole new chapter,

it's like being born again," he said as the reality of his liberty began to sink in. "I just have so much inside me that I want to let out."

When he was sent to prison for the second time in the same case last month, Fahmy began working on what he called a charter of rights for journalists in Egypt. Before he leaves Cairo for Canada in a few days he wants to present his document to Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi who pardoned him.

"I want to build on what happened with this case and explain to him some of the issues that journalists face here on the ground," he said. "I will

continue fighting to get at least little victories to a real true free press."

Fahmy's long-running legal saga has drawn attention from around the world ever since he and two colleagues were arrested in December 2013 while working for satellite news broadcaster Al Jazeera English.

The trio — who maintained their innocence throughout — were charged with offences that included supporting a banned organization and fabricating footage to undermine the country's national security. They were convicted in a trial that observers called a sham and sentenced to years in prison.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Groups surprised NDP-er not aware of Auschwitz

Jewish groups say they were astonished that an educated school trustee running for the New Democrats in the federal election had no awareness of one of the Nazis' most notorious deaths camps.

Jewish leaders were reacting to comments by Alex Johnstone, the NDP candidate in Hamilton, Ont., who was forced to apologize for referring to fence posts at Auschwitz as being phallic on a Facebook page in 2008. Explaining her comments to a local newspaper Tuesday, Johnstone reportedly claimed that she didn't know what Auschwitz was. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Disabled student's view unfair: Prof

The professor involved in a controversy at Memorial University of Newfoundland says a hearing-impaired student who claims she failed to accommodate him has "selective amnesia."

In a statement released to local radio station VPCM, history professor Raneen Panjabi says William Sears rejected her offer to discuss alternatives to the FM transmitter, which he said he needed to hear lectures.

"I was completely taken aback as I am used to students being courteous enough to listen, not rebuff a discussion in that regrettable manner," Panjabi wrote in the signed letter dated Sept. 24.

Panjabi says the third-year student abruptly walked out

of class instead of letting her explain that the hearing device would not allow him to hear discussions involving classmates or videos shown as part of her instruction, leaving him at a disadvantage.

"While Mr. Sears rebuffed any discussion with me — discussion that would have resolved this matter satisfactorily — he proceeded to provide his version — which regrettably displayed flashes of selective amnesia — to every media source he could garner."

Panjabi notes she holds a law degree and says a 1996 agreement with the school allowing her to refuse to wear the device on religious grounds is binding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Leaders face off over the niqab

ELECTION 2015

French event could be a turning point for Mulcair

It took less than 20 minutes before the niqab was brought up at the French-language all-leaders debate in Montreal Thursday night.

The issue has dominated the campaign trail in the week leading up to the debate and in light of the Up for Debate panel on women's issues.

The Conservatives and the Bloc have come out against the niqab being worn during citizenship ceremonies, while the NDP, Liberals and Green Party all say it is a symbol of religious expression and individual freedom.

But the moderator expanded on the issue beyond the citizenship ceremony, asking: "Is it not reasonable to ask that services of government of Canada be delivered with face uncovered?"

Duceppe said he was the



Thursday night's debate in French offered a rare opportunity to hear from all the leaders.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

only candidate opposed to it being worn during any government service, while Trudeau reaffirmed his stance that no man, and no state, has the right to interfere with a woman's style of dress.

"Never will I say to my daughter that a woman has

What is the impact of the niqab on the economy?

Elizabeth May,
Green Party Leader

to cover her face because she's a woman," Harper said.

But Mulcair, who is courting the Quebec vote, tried to stay above the fray. He said he's opposed to it being worn when women must identify themselves, which he said no one disagrees with. He accused

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE FRIDAY



• **Stephen Harper** will be in Riviere-du-Loup, Que.

• **Justin Trudeau** will be in Ottawa.

• **Tom Mulcair** will be in Quebec City.

• **Elizabeth May** will be in Montreal.

Duceppe of grandstanding and splitting the vote.

"Harper is only pushing this... because he sees the advantage... I want us to unite to have a single objective to get behind the PCs," he said.

May also seemed fed up with the issue.

"This has created a false debate. ... What is the impact of the niqab on economy?" she asked.

In a debate season filled with no-shows (Conservative Leader Stephen Harper at Up For Debate) and persona non grata (Green Party Leader Elizabeth May at the Globe and Mail's

economy debate), Thursday night's debate hosted by Radio-Canada is offering voters a rare opportunity to hear from all of Canada's political leaders.

The debate, one of two French-language debates scheduled before the election, could be a turning point for Mulcair, whose party swept Quebec in the 2011 election.

Quebec now makes up more than half of the NDP's caucus, and Mulcair will need to maintain a tight control of the province if he hopes to gain ground this election.

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SAUDI ARABIA

Over 700 pilgrims killed in hajj crush

Two giant waves of Muslim pilgrims collided at an intersection Thursday near a holy site in Saudi Arabia, and more than 700 people were crushed and trampled to death in the worst disaster at the hajj in a quarter-century.

"People were climbing over one another just to breathe," said Abdullah Lotfy of Egypt. "It was like a wave. You go forward and suddenly you go back."

The hajj, which drew two million people from over 180 countries this year, is a huge logistical challenge for Saudi Arabia. The kingdom has spent billions of dollars to accommodate the growing number of pilgrims and maintain safety and security at Islam's holy cities of Mecca and Medina for the annual event.

Saudi Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Mansour al-Turki said that initial reports showed two crowds coming from opposing directions converged at an intersection in Mina, on the outskirts of Mecca, when the pushing and shoving started. "Unfortunately, these incidents happen

100,000

About 100,000 security forces were deployed to manage the crowds and provide security for this year's hajj, with 5,000 CCTV cameras in Mecca and Medina.

in a moment," al-Turki said at a news conference.

But four survivors questioned how officials managing the flow of people could allow two big crowds going in different directions to intersect on streets packed with pilgrims.

As of late Thursday, the death toll was 719, but that probably would rise as bodies continued to be counted. At least 863 people were injured.

It was the second major accident during this year's hajj season. On Sept. 11, a construction crane crashed down onto the Grand Mosque, killing 111 people and injuring more than 390.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EU leaders show unity once more

metr The Syrian Crisis

The response

Summit OKs plan to deal with migrants

After months of delay and debate, European Union leaders agreed Thursday to mount a broader, more comprehensive response to Europe's migration crisis, including ponying up more money to aid refugees in the Middle East, both to feed them and to reduce the chance they will come to Europe, and to toughen EU border controls.

"In the face of a major challenge, Europe can't just say: We will not deal with this. That would be completely wrong," said German Chancellor Angela Merkel. "We have to find answers together."

"Urgent needs" of refugees currently in the Middle East will be met with at least 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion US) in



Afghan refugees reach the Greek island of Lesbos, Thursday, joining the nearly half-million asylum-seekers already in Europe. PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

fresh EU funding to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Food Program and other agencies, the leaders decided. Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and other countries dealing with refugees fleeing the Syrian civil war should also receive greater injections of EU assistance, including through a "substantial increase" in the EU's Regional Trust Fund.

The leaders agreed to beef

up border controls by providing more resources, including personnel and equipment from their countries, to help Frontex, the EU's border agency, Europol and other EU organizations. By November, new EU dedicated teams will be fully deployed to assist local authorities in Greece and Italy — where most people have been arriving.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUCTION

Diamond could net \$28M

A pink diamond the size of a postage stamp is going on the auction block and it's estimated to bring as much as \$28 million US.

The 16.08-carat gem could set a record for a cushion-shaped fancy vivid pink diamond when it's offered at Christie's in Geneva on Nov. 10.

The auction house says it's the largest diamond of its kind to come to auction.

A smaller, 8.72-carat pink diamond of the same shape and fancy vivid pink grade sold for \$15.9 million US at auction in May.

Fancy vivid pink means the hue is of the purest and strongest saturation.

Christie's says the seller purchased it 10 years ago as an investment.

A 25-carat emerald-cut pink diamond holds the auction record for any diamond. It sold for \$46 million US in 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



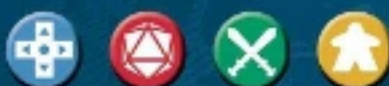
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Sexting leads to legal morass

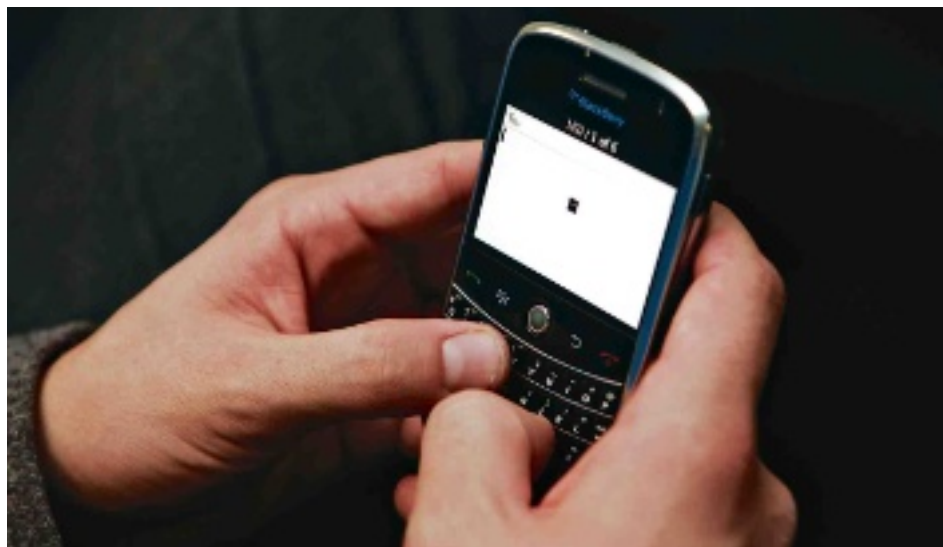
TECHNOLOGY

Archaic laws leave teen couples facing hefty charges

When authorities discovered that a high school couple had sent each other nude selfies, the two 16-year-olds were plunged into a legal morass with the potential to be branded sex offenders for life.

The North Carolina teens were accused of being both the victims of child pornography and the perpetrators of the crime. And under a quirk in the law, the legal system treated them as adults for purposes of prosecuting them, but also considered them minors by deeming their selfies child pornography.

The case illustrates the quandary authorities face with sexting cases. Most states have yet to update child pornography laws to account for minors who are caught exchanging explicit selfies. The laws, some written decades ago, carry stiff penalties including prison time and



Prosecuting minors for sexting can have a negative psychological impact, according to some experts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

a requirement to register as a sex offender.

"No one even imagined how easy it would be for anybody to have a little device in their pocket with pictures like this," said Diana Graber, co-founder of Cyberwise, a group that teaches online safety for parents and teachers.



It seems to me that the cure is worse than the disease.

Psychologist Elizabeth Englander on prosecuting minors for sexting each other

The North Carolina case began in October 2014 when investigators were looking into a suspected statutory rape, said police Sgt. Sean Swain. The 16-year-old boy wasn't considered a suspect or witness, but authorities thought information about the case might be on his phone. Swain said the teen's

mother allowed them to search his phone without a warrant.

A sheriff's office investigator found an explicit picture of his girlfriend and determined she was under 18, initiating the sexting investigation, Swain said.

Uproar over the case came after both were charged in February with multiple counts of sexual exploitation of a minor.

Eventually, the charges were reduced to misdemeanor counts of disseminating harmful materials to a minor and in September they were each given a year of probation and agreed not to possess a cellphone. If they complete the agreement, the charges will be dismissed and they can apply to have the case expunged.

Elizabeth Englander, a Bridgewater State University psychology professor, said prosecuting minors for sexting can have a negative psychological impact. "Where you have two kids who are in a relationship, they're not trying to exploit each other ... and they're exchanging these kinds of photos, it seems to me that the cure is worse than the disease," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Snowden launches privacy treaty campaign

Edward Snowden appeared in New York via video to launch a campaign promoting an international treaty to protect privacy. The former National Security Agency systems analyst appeared from Moscow via a video link Thursday at a forum in Manhattan on the so-called Snowden Treaty.

Advocates say the treaty would curtail mass surveillance of phone calls and online activity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian drones gathering intelligence on Syria

U.S. officials say Russia has begun flying drone surveillance flights over Syria. Officials say the Russians are gathering intelligence in preparation for what most expect will be the launch of fighter aircraft in the coming days. The officials say that so far there have been no problems or conflicts with the U.S. and coalition fighter aircraft that continue to bomb Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant militants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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An emergency official stands near a charter bus, left, and a Ride the Ducks amphibious tour bus that were involved in a fatal crash Thursday in Seattle. TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

‘Duck boat’ strikes bus

SEATTLE

Four dead in amphibious tour vehicle collision

A “duck boat” tour vehicle and a charter bus carrying foreign college students collided on a busy Seattle bridge Thursday, killing four people and sending dozens to hospitals.

The collision happened on the Aurora Avenue bridge, which carries one of the city’s main north-south highways over a lake.

At least 12 people were in critical condition, and many others suffered minor injuries, Fire Chief Harold Scoggins said.

There was no immediate word about the cause of the crash, which involved a military-style tour bus that can also be operated on water. Initial reports described the accident as a head-on collision.

A driver who was behind the duck boat said the tour bus and duck boat were headed in opposite directions.

Brad Volm, 23, of Philadelphia, said the amphibious vehicle swerved in front of him. The left front tire of the duck boat appeared to lock up, and then the vehicle swerved into the oncoming charter bus, Volm said.

Witnesses described hearing a loud screech and then seeing injured people lying on the pavement or wandering around in a daze.

Jahna Dyer, a registered nurse, said she was walking across the bridge when she came upon the scene, a mess of jumbled metal and glass. Some victims were lying on the road. Others milled about, seemingly in shock and falling down.

Dyer jumped a railing separating the sidewalk from the roadway and helped stabilize an injured man’s neck. She said she also helped a woman who had a cut lip and glass in her eye.

“She was holding my hand and saying thank you,” she said.

The amphibious vehicle is operated by a tour company called Ride the Ducks, which offers tours that are known for exuberant drivers and guides who play loud music and quack through speakers as they lead tourists around the city. Company President Brian Tracey called the fatal accident “devastating” and told The Seattle Times that the company continually trains and conducts on-going education classes to ensure safety.

The safety of the amphibious boats has been questioned before. Lawyer Steve Bulzomi represented a motorcyclist who was run over and dragged by a Ride the Ducks boat that came up behind him at a stoplight in downtown Seattle in 2011.

“These are military craft that were never designed to navigate narrow city streets,” Bulzomi said Thursday. “This is a business model that requires the driver to be a driver, tour guide and entertainer at the same time. It asks too much of the driver.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RELIGION

Pope in D.C. visits Congress, homeless

Pope Francis on Thursday urged Congress and the nation to abolish the death penalty, fight global warming and embrace immigrants.

The pope entreated the nation to share its immense wealth with those less fortunate. Lawmakers gave rousing ovations to the leader of the world’s Catholics despite obvious disagreements over some of his pleas.

Francis, in deliberate and

accented English, noted that many lawmakers descended from immigrants and the U.S. was founded by foreigners “who came to this land to pursue their dream of building a future in freedom.”

“Let us treat others with the same passion and compassion with which we want to be treated,” he said. “Let us seek for others the same possibilities which we seek for ourselves.”

After he addressed Congress, the first pontiff to do so, he underscored his message by travelling directly to a downtown Washington church, where he mingled with needy and homeless people, blessed their noon-time meal and walked among them while they ate.

Soon after, he headed by plane to New York, second stop on his three-city first visit to the U.S. After arriving at John

F. Kennedy International Airport in Queens, he boarded a helicopter to Manhattan, where the cathedral is located.

Two sisters, 89-year-old Anna Ambrosino and 92-year-old Connie Angiolillo, waited in their wheelchairs for Francis to arrive. Angiolillo, citing her age, said this was her only chance to see him: “Next time I see the pope,” she said, “it will be in heaven.”

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PHONE FANS RAIN CAN'T DAMPEN THEIR FERVOUR More than 50 people camp in the rain outside the Apple Store in Sydney, Australia, on Friday to be among the first to purchase the new iPhone 6s. GLENN NICHOLLS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bones may be from Mona Lisa model

ART

But tests fail to link fragments to portrait's alleged subject

Scientific testing of bone fragments from a Florence church grave could not determine whether they are from the body of a Renaissance-era woman some believe was the model for Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa, researchers said Thursday.

Perhaps as enigmatic as that Mona Lisa smile, the question of who might have been the model has intrigued art lovers for centuries.

Art historians differ on the model's identity.

Even if bone testing had determined that the remains were that of Lisa Gherardini, the wife of rich silk merchant Francesco del Giocondo, it wouldn't have answered the intriguing question of who

posed for Leonardo.

Some say he used a male model; still others theorize the artist did a kind of self-portrait in disguise or used several models.

Researchers told reporters in Florence that carbon-14 testing of one of the fragments indicated the remains were compatible with the period. Gherardini died at age 63 in 1542, and the researchers said historical documents indicate she was buried in a Florence convent.

Head researcher Silvano Vinceti said unfortunately there are few remains, and no skull, which might have helped determine if the woman could have been Leonardo's model for the portrait, which is in the Louvre in Paris.

"Our biggest problem has been the fact that the fragments were very fragmented, very deteriorated," said Giorgio Gruppioni, head of the forensic anthropology laboratory at Bologna University.



The odds that the bones belong to her are very high.

Silvano Vinceti,
researcher

That complicated the task of determining the sex and age at death as well as DNA analysis, he said.

Because no remains have been found of Gherardini's relatives, any DNA comparison testing was impossible, the researchers said.

Still, Vinceti insisted that "the odds that the bones belong to her are very high."

A 16th-century artist and biographer of artists, Giorgio Vassari, wrote that Leonardo painted a portrait of del Giocondo's wife.

Tradition has long linked the woman to the Mona Lisa painting, which is known in Italian as La Gioconda.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Models dress as characters from the video game Call of Duty. Activision is expanding its e-sports competition from an annual tournament to a year-round season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Call of Duty gets league of its own

VIDEO GAMES

Competition expanding to year-round championship

Activision is widening the scope of e-sports competition for Call of Duty players.

The publisher of the hugely popular military shooter franchise is expanding its e-sports program next year from an annual tournament to year-round international leagues, as well as increasing the prize pool from \$1 million US to \$3 million US. The international leagues will be comprised of professional and amateur divisions, culminating in a championship at the end of the year.

"This is going to mark a new era of e-sports for Call of Duty," said Rob Kostich, senior vice-president and general manager for Call of Duty at Activision.

"It signals Activision stepping up our commitment to what we've been doing with e-sports. We're expanding our season to make it a fun, competitive year leading into the Call of Duty Championship."

The Santa Monica, Calif.-based publisher is calling the revamped e-sports offering the Call of Duty World League. The competition will launch in early 2016 with leagues in North America, Europe and Australia and New Zealand. The three territories will each feature independent seasons concluding with 32 teams at the Call of Duty Championship in fall 2016.

"It felt like the right time to do it," said Kostich. "We think we have an agenda that's going to be really attractive to them, and we have a new game coming out, Call of Duty: Black Ops III, that we couldn't be more excited about to lead us into this new era of e-sports."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALTH INSURANCE

Research options, insurer advises

The period of time between graduating from school to landing a full-time job with benefits can stretch on for months or years for young Canadians, meaning they lack extended health and dental benefits since they're too old to be covered by their parents' plans.

And with the growing use of contract employees who don't receive benefits, that means young Canadians must fend for themselves and buy their

60 days

If you're coming off your parents' group plan or another insurance plan, you have about 60 days when you can roll yourself into an individual plan without going through underwriting, Sue Reibel at Manulife says.

own supplemental health and dental insurance.

Provincial health insurance doesn't cover everything. Whether it's a prescription for penicillin, a crown that needs to be replaced or an ambulance ride to the hospital, if you don't have insurance, you'll end up paying out of pocket.

Loretta Kulchyski, vice-president of group marketing at Great-West Life, suggests consumers start their hunt for

health and dental benefits by deciding how much coverage they're going to need and researching their options online.

Insurance companies generally offer a choice of the level of coverage, from bare-bones plans that provide just basic prescription drug coverage and dental checkups to plans that have comprehensive options with higher limits and a broader range.

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IN BRIEF

Oculus eyes virtual reality mainstream market

Virtual reality is taking a few steps closer to the mainstream with announcements at a developers conference for virtual reality technology company Oculus in Los Angeles. Samsung unveiled a headset that brings the technology to its latest smartphones at half the price, Facebook said it is launching support for 360-degree video, and online video services said they are on board. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS

Gone fishing, for a while: Indigenous people in Alaska were catching salmon long before anyone thought. Cooked fish bits were found dating 11,500 years back, to the last ice age.

THE BIG THING: HAS CASH GONE COLD?

When was the last time you used cash for something other than a panhandler or a parking meter? Now the Bank of England's chief economist, Andy Haldane, has mused about giving up money all together — at least the kind that's not made of plastic. To get the European economy going, he hopes to find a way to charge negative interest — basically, to penalize people for leaving money in the bank. That's easier to do with a digital balance than with a wad of bills stuffed under a mattress, and though there are some protests from libertarians, there may be other good reasons to get rid of the green as well.

1

Making (criminals) change

When you don't want to be caught buying or selling, cash is your friend. It's what the dark side of the economy runs on. Some researchers argue that the crime rate goes down when people have fewer opportunities to offend — and without cash, drug dealers, phone pawnbrokers and tax dodgers may have a harder time of it. On the other hand, the so-called dark web is increasingly the home of such tainted transactions.

2

Price to pay Some worry that the idea of canning cash and allowing people's savings to be slimmed by negative interest has a whiff of tyranny about it. A columnist in the Financial Times wrote, "The anonymity of cash helps to free people from their governments and some criminality is a price worth paying for liberty."

3

Giving credit to debit

Incredibly, when some counties in Missouri started making welfare payments electronically, instead of as cheques that need to be cashed, cash-motivated crimes such as burglary and larceny fell by nearly 10 per cent. That lends credence to the idea that money burns a hole in your pocket and puts bad ideas in your head.



metroview

Sex education: Won't someone think of what the children need?



Samantha Emann
Metro | Toronto

The numbers are in, and have been for a while, and it's official: Teens have sex. For their sake, get over it.

I can't check Facebook or navigate the news without seeing another complaint about the new sex-education in Ontario — the most modern document of its type in the country, and one that sets a standard for other provinces to follow.

Yes, we should consider dissenters when crafting policies that affect children. But it's equally important to make sure curriculum is free of the misinformation and blatant bigotry of organizations clearly pushing their own agendas.

Groups like the Canadian Families Alliance and the Campaign Life Coalition say the new curriculum, which opens a discussion on the proper names of genitalia in Grade 1, is improper. I, for one, do not miss the days of pee-pee and wee-wee, and I think such things are beneath us. The words "penis" and "vagina" cannot corrupt children.

These organizations are overlooking the facts. According to Statistics Canada, 25 per cent of teenagers have sex for the first time at age 15 or 16. Nine per cent — one in ten — were 14 or younger. The percentage increases with age, and by 18 or 19, 68 per cent said they have had sex.

But ideologues don't let

facts stand in the way of their moral beliefs and so-called "traditional" view of human sexuality — that sex ought to take place between one man and one woman who are married to each other. That's nothing more than a hole in the sand where parents can bury their heads to deny that their teenagers are having sex.

If teens are going to have sex (and they are), they need information that will help them make the right choices and develop healthy, respectful relationships.

And they're not getting that information. The huge confusion about consent makes that abundantly clear. Much has been made about Grade 8 lessons in making a "personal plan" for sexual activity.

Maybe that's needed. A 2015 survey found 67 per cent of Canadians couldn't accurately define consent, and four per cent don't think consent is needed in every case (who are you people?).

A recent campaign by the University of British Columbia to teach this highly nuanced concept through the use of emojis further demonstrates why consent should be taught at a young age, before kids are having sex. The concept cannot be boiled down to smiley and not-so-smiley faces.

Teaching young people about healthy sexuality can save lives, and that is more valuable than archaic social beliefs and more important than the feelings of any parent who doesn't want to think about their children having sex.

Happy face/sad face

From **sprinting seniors** to **Russian royals**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week



Romanov remains to be removed

The last royals of Russia, Czar Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra, will be exhumed to settle an old dispute. The monarchs and their five children were killed in 1918. Bones of the parents and three children were interred in 1998. Two more sets of remains put to rest in 2007 were thought to be the other children. Not everyone agrees. Chief shovel-wielder is the Russian Orthodox Church, which canonized the family. So those who want to pray over the relics would be committing sacrilege if these turn out to be someone else's old bones.

SOURCE: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Centenarian runs into old age



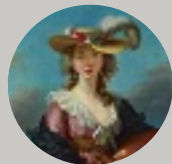
Japanese athlete Hidekichi Miyazaki set a record as the world's oldest competitive sprinter this week, one day after turning 105 — but he was sad about it. He fell short of his personal best, running 100 metres in 42.22 seconds, down from a record of 34.10. Miyazaki was born on Sept. 22, 1910. He started running only in his 90s. Before that, his sporting activities were limited to board games — but he looked elsewhere for fun when his fellow players began to die off. The secret of his success is a little surprising: He says it's chewing his food properly.

SOURCE: CBC



Famous female French artist finally feted

After 170 years in obscurity, the first internationally celebrated female artist is getting her own exhibition in France. Elisabeth Louise Vigée le Brun fell out of favour after France's revolutionary furor, in part because her most famous work is a monumental portrait of Queen Marie-Antoinette, who had an unfortunate encounter with a guillotine just six years after it was painted. Only 150 of about 1,000 paintings le Brun created during her life will be displayed at Paris's Grand Palais — but it's an honour for an artist who was constantly dismissed by her male contemporaries. SOURCE: BBC



Bacteria wage war worldwide

Antibiotic overuse brings to mind a spoiled child with a sniffle whose parents demand penicillin. But a new report by the U.S. Center for Disease Dynamics suggests that's not right. While rich countries like Sweden are starting to take note of germs adapting to the medicines we use against them, that's not happening in the developing world. In many places antibiotics are available without a prescription. Drug resistance is climbing in Kenya and Vietnam. And in India, 80 per cent of the stomach bug E. coli is resistant to three categories of drugs — a scary sign that an invisible enemy is outsmarting human attempts to curb disease. SOURCE: NPR

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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

IT IS A STRANGE FACT THAT FREEDOM AND EQUALITY, THE TWO BASIC IDEAS OF DEMOCRACY, ARE TO SOME EXTENT CONTRADICTORY.





Robert De Niro recently walked out of an interview with a journalist, saying “I’m not doing this, darling.” But he isn’t the first celebrity to behave badly when talking to the press. HANDOUT

The no good, very bad interview

PRESS JUNKETS

If you think De Niro is bad, try talking to Tommy Lee

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

What would you do if Robert De Niro cut short your conversation with a quick, “I’m not doing this, darling,” and exited? If you’re Radio Times journalist Emma Brockes you write about it and watch your article go viral.

As unpleasant as the encounter may have been — he objected to the “negative

inference” of her questions, she called him condescending — it did exactly what it was meant to do, generate buzz for De Niro’s upcoming film *The Intern*.

Who won? I’ll give the edge to Brockes who, when faced with a bad situation, turned De Niro’s lemons into lemonade and earned just as much press as the touchy actor.

De Niro took some blowback for his behaviour. Daily Mail columnist Piers Morgan wrote, “If I’d been her, I’d have slapped him ‘round his smug little chops,” adding the *Goodfellas* star is “renowned as the rudest, most difficult and frankly obnoxious star to interview, possibly in the history of planet Earth.”

I think Morgan overstates his case. De Niro isn’t the worst —

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Intern	★★
Hotel Transylvania	★★
Pawn Sacrifice	★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
 ★★★★★ SEE IT
 ★★★ WORTHWHILE
 ★★ UP TO YOU
 ★ SKIP IT

anyone who has ever done a movie junket knows Tommy Lee Jones is the crankiest, most soul destroying interview ever — he’s just a reticent interview, who, according to director Nancy Myers, doesn’t want “to expose himself all the time.”

De Niro isn’t alone in the chat-and-dash sweepstakes. Robert Downey Jr. and Quentin Tarantino bolted on Krishnan Guru-Murthy with the *Avenge*: Age of Ultron actor later

calling the Channel 4 news presenter a “syphilitic parasite.” Robert Pattinson, Naomi Campbell and Russell Crowe have also done runners on the press.

So why submit to promotional interviews at all? Contractual obligation has much to do with it, but beyond that, they’re good for the movie. Daniel Radcliffe, star of *Harry Potter*, *Horns* and the upcoming *Victor Frankenstein*, once told me no matter how famous the actor, anyone who doesn’t

get out and pump their film up to the press is making a huge mistake.

As a result everyone does them and while it’s easy to look at De Niro or Downey as spoiled brats, I’m surprised walkouts don’t happen more often.

It must get brutally dull answering the same questions over and over, particularly when they are of the “Of all your leading ladies who was the best kisser?” variety.

How bad can it get in the interview suites?

Once a talking head proudly told me she wrote new lyrics for Beyoncé’s hit song *Survivor*... “My name’s Beyoncé/ I’m in Goldmember/ You’re watching blah blah on blah blah blah...” and asked the superstar to sing them as a promo for her television sta-

tion. If I were Beyoncé I would have exited stage left without a song on my lips.

I remember one “reporter” asking George Lucas “whether Dark Vader was a good guy or a bad guy.” If I were Lucas I would have hitched a Millennium Falcon ride out of there.

Recently I heard Tom Cruise try and answer the question, “What kind of stunt would you do to impress a girl?” If I were Cruise I would have grabbed the side of the nearest plane and jetted out of there.

As for De Niro, Brockes graciously says she has sympathy for him “because nobody wants to be there for these choreographed junket interviews.”

De Niro wasn’t quite as kind, but at least he called her “darling” and not “syphilitic parasite.”

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Billy Crudup's big experiment

INTERVIEW

Actor took his role as a psychologist too seriously

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Actor Billy Crudup has a simple theory why his true-life indie drama *The Stanford Prison Experiment* is striking a chord with movie audiences.

"It is disturbing in the exact right way," states the 47-year-old star who plays Dr. Philip Zimbardo — the infamous university professor who directed one of history's most shocking social experiments.

Filmmaker Kyle Patrick Alvarez's award-winning Sundance hit dramatizes the 1971 experiment in which Zimbardo (played by Crudup) randomly assigned students to either the role of sadistic guard or submissive inmate, then studied as the subjects soon grew horribly abusive



The Stanford Prison Experiment is based on the real-life psychological experiment conducted by Dr. Philip Zimbardo in 1971. CONTRIBUTED

in a simulated jailhouse environment.

"Oh, it's interesting," said Crudup about the actual footage he studied in preparation. "At that time, the closed-circuit television wasn't the

greatest quality and the cameras were positioned far away (so) you don't get the same kind of feeling watching it as seeing the movie. Kyle does this really impressive job getting close-ups of all the faces

twitching or these kids really being disturbed."

For authenticity, Alvarez also enlisted the real Dr. Zimbardo to help shape the script and although the researcher's methods have since been

FILMOGRAPHY



Watchmen (2009): Crudup got to flex his muscles as superhero Dr. Manhattan in this global comic-book hit.

Big Fish (2003): Trying to relive the stories of his fictional dying father proved successful in this Tim Burton fantasy, earning \$123 million worldwide.

Almost Famous (2000): Perhaps his best known role, Crudup plays '70s guitarist Russell Hammond in this Oscar-nominated rock drama.

that I've met," said Crudup.

"He has such a fascination with this subject matter and for this event in particular and he has an appetite to share experience so he was a really wonderful presence to have on set and to learn from."

But Crudup may have enjoyed Zimbardo's visits for another reason. After all, since the veteran star of blockbusters *Almost Famous* and comic-book adaptation *Watchmen* was portraying the strict psychologist, he decided to avoid the rest of the young cast and kept from mingling with fellow actors during filming.

"I was meant to be an authority figure and someone who was intimidating and had a capacity to manipulate the situation of their well being. I didn't want them to have any great sense of generosity or warmth towards me," explained Crudup.

"Besides when you're working on a low-budget movie like this, there's not that much opportunity for socializing anyway."

called into question, Crudup insists the man seemed entirely rational whenever he visited the set.

"He is certainly among the most charismatic (men)

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ANIMATION

Hotel Transylvania 2

Director: Genndy Tartakovsky
Starring: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez

The hit CG-animated family comedy Hotel Transylvania gets a followup with this Sony Pictures Animation production.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **NOT YET REVIEWED**
Audience: **+96%**



ACTION & ADVENTURE

Everest

Director: Baltasar Kormakur
Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Jason Clarke

2 Guns helmer Baltasar Kormakur directs Jake Gyllenhaal, Josh Brolin, Jason Clarke, and John Hawkes in this adventure docudrama set in 1996, when a number of simultaneous expeditions up Mount Everest resulted in the deaths of eight climbers.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **73%**
Audience: **76%**



HORROR/COMEDY

Cooties

Director: Jonathan Milott, Cary Murnion
Starring: Elijah Wood, Rainn Wilson

When a cafeteria food virus turns elementary school children into killer zombies, a group of misfit teachers must band together to escape the playground carnage. The film stars Elijah Wood, Rainn Wilson, and Alison Pill as teachers who fight to survive the mayhem while bickering in an uncomfortable love triangle.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **40%**
Audience: **+93%**



COMEDY

The Intern

Director: Nancy Meyers
Starring: Anne Hathaway, Robert DeNiro

A retired successful business owner and widower lands an internship at a fashion website run by a young, career-driven woman.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **58%**
Audience: **+97%**



DRAMA

Pawn Sacrifice

Director: Edward Zwick
Starring: Peter Sarsgaard, Tobey Maguire

In a gripping true story set during the height of the Cold War, American chess prodigy Bobby Fischer (Tobey Maguire) finds himself caught between two superpowers when he challenges the Soviet Empire.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **79%**
Audience: **+96%**



DRAMA

Black Mass

Director: Scott Cooper
Starring: Johnny Depp, Benedict Cumberbatch

In 1970s South Boston, FBI Agent John Connolly persuades Irish mobster James "Whitey" Bulger (Johnny Depp) to collaborate with the FBI and eliminate a common enemy: the Italian mob. The drama tells the story of this unholy alliance, which spiralled out of control.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **83%**
Audience: **+98%**

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5 FILMS THAT DARED TO SING HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Until this week's landmark ruling from a Californian District Court that put Happy Birthday to You in the public domain, film and television studios wouldn't use the song to avoid licensing costs. We look at five films that ran against the grain. **AFP**



1 Batman Begins

30-year-old Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale) enters to a polite, string-accompanied Happy Birthday sung by friends and acquaintances. That establishes his status as a well-esteemed member of high society, right up until the moment he's confronted by Ra's al Ghul (Liam Neeson) and has to throw out his guests and trash a carefully curated reputation. Batman Begins was, of course, a Warner Bros film, the studio having held the Happy Birthday license since 1988.



2 Office Space

Professional awkwardness at its comic, toe-curling best as an enterprise's worth of disgruntled employees mumble Happy Birthday to their privileged, presumptuous Initech boss Bill Lumbergh (Gary Cole). No. 1 outcast Milton (Stephen Root) doesn't get the piece of cake he was promised, further contributing to the character's unfortunate decline.



3 Full Metal Jacket

Unlike Initech's VP Lumbergh, Gunnery Sgt. Hartman can actually command a rousing recitation of the traditional birthday song, performed on Christmas Day and personally addressed to Jesus, before reminding his troops of who it is that currently claims possession of their recently recruited behinds.



4 2001: A Space Odyssey

Director Stanley Kubrick knew how to make good use of Happy Birthday to You, having already used it a full 10 years before FMJ in his sci-fi Arthur C. Clarke adaptation. Contrasting with the later war epic, here the song was used not to emphasize social bonds, however intentionally forged, but the isolation experienced by space station doctor Frank Poole.



5 Old School

Sean William Scott is in charge of a miniature pony at a kid's birthday party thrown by Bernard Campbell (Vince Vaughn); Scott's character drops an f-bomb and a tranquilizer gun in the pony's pen and when Frank (Will Ferrell) accidentally shoots a dart into his own neck, a muddy, lethargic Happy Birthday becomes the soundtrack for a cake-crushing rampage.

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One of those 'no acting required' gigs

EVEREST

Cast and crew braved altitude sickness, icy temperatures

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Jason Clarke battles the elements in Everest, recreating the true story of a disastrous trip to the summit of the tallest mountain in the world. While most would assume it was all movie magic, the Australian reveals the reality.

What was shot outside and how much was staged?

We started off, we went to Kathmandu. We flew in there and shot all that stuff that you see there, and then we did basically the hike up to base camp, but we chop it up because of time. You start shooting at 12,000 to 16,000 feet. That was an issue because normally to acclimatize the group will take two and a half weeks to climb up to that point, at which point you're



Australian actor Jason Clarke stars as Rob Hall, who leads the expedition in the film Everest. UNIVERSAL PICTURES VIA AP

ready to hang out at base camp for a month before you go for the summit. We had to go up and down quite quickly, so people were affected. There was a scene where we were up with the memorials to the dead people, that was shot at 16,000 feet just around the corner from base camp.

That sounds amazing, but terrifying.

Sure, but oh my God, it was special. We then went to the Alps in Italy, and we shot a lot of the southeast ridge and the external stuff on the peaks up there between 10,000 and 13,000 feet. It was (-30 C) in winter, so it was cold and snowy. Pretty much the only

stuff we shot on the stage was the actual summit itself and the Hillary Steps stuff...

The costumes and the beard and being so bundled up, you don't really have to worry about makeup and hair things like that. I mean, when we got to that stage they stuck in this weird gel stuff that was horrible, but no. It

was one of those "no acting required" gigs.

Were you much of a hiker or climber before this?

Yeah, more so a lot of hiking. I'd done some climbing, and then I did a lot of big climbs to get ready for it back in New Zealand and then in Scotland just to kind of get a

sense of what it's like to be out when it's f—ed up and just take it.

You're doing a New Zealand accent in this, and I feel like every time I see you, you're doing some accent different than your own.

I prefer to do an accent. It's one way to find character. For this next role I'm learning the violin and fencing. The work itself helps you find the character. If things weren't difficult to do, I'd probably be lazy. And I actually prefer to work with accents, when there's a voice. I remember Heath (Ledger) in Brokeback Mountain, that voice that he had. That just was his character. It was amazing.

One thing I appreciated about this movie is the restraint with which it handles death scenes. The people are just there one second and not there the next. That's Baltasar (Kormakur) sticking to his story and knowing his story and saying, "This is the movie that I'm making." And understanding the power of good story. He knew exactly the line and kept us on that line.

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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

We devoured its greasy contents.



Not so in real life. Blunt married The Office's Jon Krasinski at George Clooney's Lake Como villa. That's where her sister Felicity, a literary agent, met her future husband, Blunt's *The Devil Wears Prada* co-star, Stanley Tucci. The pair fell in love over their shared affection for food. In 2014 they published *The Tucci Table*, a collection of familial recipes inspired by their respective Italian and British upbringings.

After gathering enthusiastic reviews out of Cannes and TIFF, *Sicario*, French-Canadian director Denis Villeneuve's suspenseful and grim look at the drug trade, opens in theatres this month.

Emily Blunt is FBI field agent Kate Macer who plays by the book. She's asked to join a government task force, lead by a flip-flop-wearing Josh Brolin and Benicio Del Toro — whose near-silent performance is spellbinding — aiming to apprehend Mexico's most infamous drug lord. She becomes acutely aware that not everyone plays her way.

Villeneuve's style is being compared to Michael Mann and Kathryn Bigelow's. It also recalls Steven Soderbergh's *Traffic*, which examines the complicated drug cartel web weaved on both sides of the border. But where *Traffic* looked over-saturated and grainy, *Sicario* appears washed out and arid. Long after I left the theatre, *Sicario*'s haunting soundtrack, which pulsates and propels the film's thrilling pace, stayed with me.

So, too, did Blunt's performance. Not only how well she captured her character's descent from idealist to defeatist, but also how Blunt was able to convey how solitary — both professionally and personally — Macer is.

A recipe for fish and chips, a dish steeped in nostalgia for the Blunt siblings, is included.

Let me be frank: Even if Stanley Tucci himself assures me that making fish and chips at home is relatively easy, I will never do it — not when every day after work I bike past Chippy's, which has been serving up Guinness-battered strips of fish and crispy chips for a dozen years.

It's been a couple of years since Chippy's siren-like call of deep-fried aroma has lured me in. But on a recent weekday night, with no groceries at home to speak of, I succumbed. Although the shop now has an Interac machine — and moderate indie rock had replaced deafening heavy metal — not much has changed. Within five minutes I had two orders of halibut and chips secured in a brown paper bag. Thirty minutes after that, the bag was ripped, like a raccoon got at it, and discarded on the living room floor while we devoured its gloriously greasy contents with our hands.

Fighting over the curry sauce was like the *Hunger Games* — only there was no Stanley Tucci to bring levity to the chaos.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

Denis Villeneuve won't surf on past success

Q&A

Director on sequels and chasing his dreams

Denis Villeneuve is in demand.

The Quebec director rattles off the back-to-back projects that have kept him criss-crossing the globe on movie shoots and promotional tours and guesses he might have time to sleep in 2018.

Right now he's focused on the theatrical roll-out of his cartel saga *Sicario*, a searing look at the Mexican drug war starring Emily Blunt as an idealistic FBI agent and Benicio Del Toro as an enigmatic assassin. It opens Friday in select theatres in Canada.

He's also consumed with editing his alien flick *Story of Your Life* with Amy Adams and Jeremy Renner — duties that carry right into pre-production for the *Blade Runner* reboot starring Harrison Ford and Ryan Gosling.

Villeneuve doesn't expect to be ready to go to camera for that hot title before the end of 2016.

The Canadian Press caught up with the Oscar-nominated filmmaker to discuss sequels, his Hollywood dreams, and sidestepping *Legally Blonde* 7.

***Sicario* hasn't fully opened yet but there's already talk of a sequel.**

The characters are very strong and Taylor Sheridan's screenplay ... was very powerful. The thing is that Lionsgate is very proud of the film and before the release they were starting to think, "What if? What if?" I'm not closed to the idea, I think it all depends on if Taylor can write something that is as good as the first one.... I believe in sequels if they are



Denis Villeneuve has just rolled out *Sicario* and there is already talk of another one. NATHAN DENETTE/ THE CANADIAN PRESS



I feel that there's a real strong movie that can be born out of this screenplay. That's why I agreed to do it.

Denis Villeneuve, on doing a *Blade Runner* reboot

better. I will not do something that is surfing on the success of the first one.

Otherwise why would you helm a *Blade Runner* reboot?

It's true. In a way I feel that the (*Blade Runner*) screenplay I read that Hampton Fancher, Ridley Scott and Michael

Green wrote is a very powerful screenplay and I feel that there's a real strong movie that can be born out of this screenplay. That's why I agreed to do it.

And fitting that this comes on the heels of another sci-fi project with Amy Adams.

I've been dreaming to do sci-fi since I was 10 years old. It's been a while that I've been looking for a project that would allow me to go into that genre. But *Story of Your Life* is a very different project than *Prisoners* or *Sicario* — it deals with more light than shadows. After I made five movies back-to-back that were dealing with darkness I needed a break.

Your pace has been relentless.

It's a matter of circumstances. It's a matter of movies being green-lit in a very fast pace. Usually it's slower.... After *Blade Runner* if things are going according to the plan, I will take a break. I will need a break after that just to think and to dream a little bit more. And to sleep.

It must be hard to say no when Hollywood comes calling.

When I agreed to do *Prisoners* ... I was afraid to do it because I was afraid to be crushed, that I would lose my identity as a filmmaker in that system. But the opposite happened. The producer in the studio behind the project protected me and they cared for my vision so it was a nice experience and I decided to go on. What (excites) me is that I'm given the opportunity to work with artists that I really admire, that I'm learning a lot with. Also there's things I can do that I will not be able to do here. Like, for instance in *Sicario*, the battle on the bridge is more expensive than a feature film here, you know. It's things that are not possible to do at home and as a filmmaker. I have dreams that I can try there and so it's a challenge.

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KHMER ROUGE

Angelina Jolie Pitt's son heavily involved in her new film about Cambodia, *First They Killed My Father*

Angelina Jolie Pitt has been scouting locations in Cambodia for her next film, *First They Killed My Father*, which she is casting entirely with local talent.

In a statement Thursday to The Associated Press, Jolie Pitt said she's spent the last week doing research and pre-production on the film before begin-

ning shooting in Cambodia in November.

She said she's striving, through meetings with Cambodians, to ensure the movie about the deadly Khmer Rouge regime is "accurate and faithful" to the 1970s events.

Jolie Pitt is collaborating with Cambodian author and human rights activist Luong Ung, who said the film "will be made with Cambodians as a symbol of dignity and an act of memory."

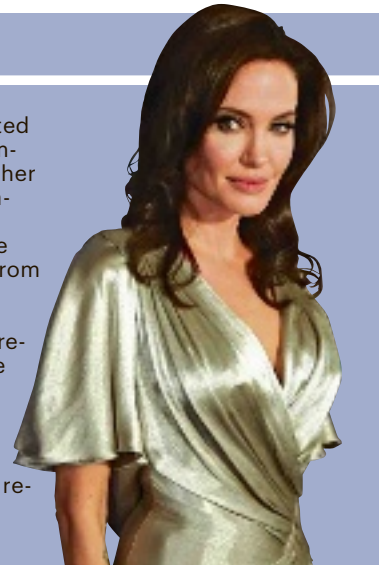
The two wrote the

script together, adapted from Ung's 2000 memoir. Jolie Pitt has said her 14-year-old Cambodia-born son, Maddox, is heavily involved in the movie, which is told from a child's perspective.

First They Killed My Father is planned for release by Netflix in late 2016.

Jolie Pitt's upcoming film, *By the Sea*, in which she co-stars with Brad Pitt, will be released Nov. 13.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



YouTube star Helbig is making it offline

INTERVIEW

She's tackled network TV, live comedy and publishing

Melita Kuburas
Metro | Canada



Despite the raunchy innuendo of her podcast title, Not Too Deep, Grace Helbig's comedy is more blithe than risqué.

"I feel like dark comedy doesn't look good on me for some reason," says Helbig, 29, who this summer wrapped the first season of her self-titled talk show on E! network. "I have more fun when I try to approach comedy from a slightly more positive and silly angle."

Helbig, who made a name for herself on YouTube where she has 2.7 million subscribers, is performing this Saturday at Just For Laughs comedy festival in Toronto with someone who just might balance out her sweetness — Epic Meal Time's Harley Morenstein, whom she accurately describes as a "six-foot-four bearded, burly dude." Morenstein is known for attacking recipes on his preposterous cooking show with the swagger and F-bomb frequency of a gansta-rap star wannabe. "But he giggles like a 12-year-old Catholic schoolgirl," says Helbig.

She hopes the two of them will deliver a paired-down, mel-

low and "strictly dumb" live podcast show for an in-person audience that's likely to be split in half between YouTube fans and more traditional standup comedy goers.

The future of the Grace Helbig Show on E! is up in the air. The sketch show bore a similar style to her online video clips — bright graphics paired with childish games such as such as rolling around in Velcro suits with her fellow YouTubers. The main difference is that the TV show also featured traditional celebs like Jack Black and Dwayne Johnson, but still incorporated fan participation into the scripts. In her interview with Johnson, for instance, Helbig reads a social media comment: "I heard all he has to do is look at a pistachio and it cracks itself open," after which she hands him a nut and a green laser shoots out of Johnson's eyes.

"We're trying to restructure," says Helbig, of the show, admitting it was a learning curve for both her and the network. The show last spring debuted to 227,000 viewers in a Friday night time slot — an underwhelming number if compared to Chelsea Handler's Chelsea Lately, which brought in approximately 600,000 viewers a night towards the end of its run.

"Media in general is constantly changing and evolving. It will probably be different when we get off this phone call than it was before jumped on," she says. "We all learned a lot about trying to bring the Internet to TV,



There was GiGi Gorgeous sitting directly next to Paula Abdul. In my mind I was like, this is what the Internet looks like in real life.

Grace Helbig, on the Streamy Awards show

to an audience that ... watches The Kardashians more than they watch Jenna Marbles."

Still, Helbig, perhaps more than any other YouTube star, has had a lot of success in cross-

ing back and forth between the traditional and digital platforms. Last year her first book, Grace's Guide: The Art of Pretending to be Grownup hit No. 1 on the New York Times Bestseller list

in the advice category a week after launch. She's following it up with a new book out this February titled Grace & Style: The Art of Pretending You Have it.

"It's a tongue-in-cheek style guide and kind of a random brain-smattering of my thoughts on beauty and fashion. I kind of have been calling it a f—d up Pinterest board in a way," she says.

She also recently wrapped production on a reboot of the '70s Electra Woman and the Dyna

Girl, which is expected to launch as a series some time this winter.

"We shot in Vancouver for a month and a half which was really cool. We didn't do too much prep. We learned firsthand we probably should have lifted a few weights or something before we got up there," she says of her co-star and frequent collaborator Hannah Hart. "It was a humbling experience because there are some really tacky spandex suits that we have to wear."



Grace Helbig will perform at Just For Laughs. HANDOUT

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Album sales don't matter anymore

ANALYSIS

Streaming has made older metrics obsolete

Alan Cross
For Metro Canada



Back in the day, it was all about record sales.

Artists and labels worked hard to push releases up the charts to create a virtuous circle of popularity.

The higher the chart position, the more people paid attention.

That led to more radio airplay which inevitably resulted in more sales. A No. 1 song or album on the Billboard charts generated untold millions of dollars for everyone.

We're still in the habit of judging the success of a release by its sales figures. Just as we get reports on weekend box office numbers for movies (as if the movie that makes the most money makes it the best), we still hear where records rank on the charts.

I'm guilty of it, too. Every week on my website, ajournalofmusicalthings.com, I publish a summary and analysis of the week's physical and digital music sales. But I think I'm going to stop doing that.

Why? Because raw sales just don't matter anymore.

Before streaming, before the Internet, the weekly SoundScan numbers meant something.

Buying music was the only

million copies or more.

Now consider this week's album sales.

The Weeknd can brag of being No. 1 again on both sides of the border with *Beauty Behind the Madness*, but let's dig into the actual numbers.

He topped the charts in Canada with sales of only 6,200 copies — a figure that would have been considered disastrous not that long ago.

It's even weirder in the U.S. where he's No. 1 with sales of just 55,000 units in a nation of 319 million people. The bar for a No. 1 is beyond limbo-low.

We also reached an interesting tipping point this past week.

For the first time, streaming revenues exceeded that of physical sales.

What matters now are listens and views.

How many people streamed a song? How many accessed it through YouTube? How many times was it shared on social media?

Those are the metrics that determine a hit today.

Keep that in mind the next time someone brags about having a No. 1 record on Billboard.



The bar for a No. 1 is beyond limbo-low

way you could listen to it on your own time.

But with streaming, we have access to tens of millions of songs for free. Why buy anything anymore?

In the old days, it was routine for a big album to have first week sales well into six figures and then settle into the high five figures for weeks.

A not-insignificant number of albums debuted with sales of a



The Weeknd can brag of being No. 1 again on both sides of the border with *Beauty Behind the Madness*, but does this even matter anymore? GETTY IMAGES



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Egypt to close Tutankhamen's tomb near Luxor for restorations



A mountain immersed in myth

The three summits of the Stawamus Chief Mountain, which attracts thousands of visitors each year for its rock climbing and hiking trails. ISTOCK

SQUAMISH, B.C.

Sacred stories just part of summiting the Chief

The Stawamus Chief on Canada's West Coast is a world-renowned rock-climbing destination known for its beautiful multi-pitch routes and unrivalled crack-climbing pitches.

But many visiting outdoor enthusiasts are unaware that the iconic granite monolith also carries the scars of a legendary battle.

The region's Squamish people tell of the mythical hero Xwech'taal vanquishing the double-headed sea serpent

Sinulhkay before uniting the Squamish Nation.

As Sinulhkay fled across the mountain, the creature seared a trail of defeat into the stone, which today is visible as a deep blackened cleft that runs like a scar up and over the mountain's face.

"It's a very powerful, sacred mountain that my people have admired for many years," says Ian Campbell, hereditary chief and elected councillor of the Squamish First Nation.

Campbell talks of the legendary Transformer brothers creating the Chief out of an enormous First Nations home in which all the spirit animals had gathered for a feast.

"We see it in the physical realm as a mountain, but in the spirit realm it's a longhouse," he

said, describing it as a symbol of togetherness.

Today, the Stawamus Chief — pronounced stah-WAH'-muss, but known colloquially simply as the Chief — attracts thousands of visitors every year, both for its premier rock-climbing offerings but also thanks to its readily accessible hiking trails that climax in rewarding ridge-top vistas.

The mountain towers 700 metres over the head of a picturesque, inundated fjord, about 50 kilometres northwest of Vancouver. It cuts a striking image from afar, visible at the base of the scenic Sea-to-Sky Highway as a radiant granite sentinel, standing watch over the sleepy community of Squamish. The monolith is the namesake of the First Nation settlement of Stawamus, located immediately at its foot.

Looking down from the first of its three rounded granite summits, the slithering Squamish River can be seen reaching the salty waters of Howe Sound, which ripple between shades of teal and aquamarine under a shifting, cloud-covered sky.

The initial peak is accessible about 1.5 kilometres from and 540 metres above the trail's starting point, while the two remaining summits are located slightly higher and farther along.

The panorama offers a view across the core of the Squamish Nation's territory.

To the north, the snow-

streaked slopes of Nch'kay — also known as Mount Garibaldi — angle into the high-ceilinged clouds. Nch'kay played a prominent role in the Squamish

Nation's creation story, offering sanctuary to the region's people during the great flood, explains Campbell.

The site also provides crucial nesting habitat to the peregrine falcon, prompting periodic closures of certain climbing routes throughout the year.

On any given summer day, small coloured specks can be made out dotting the mountain's face, indicating yet another band of climbers who have opted for

the more direct, albeit somewhat more challenging, path to the peak.

A middle-aged couple from Michigan braved the moss-covered crag and scrambled up the occasional metal ladder and chain to reach the first peak.

"You just can't do justice to this place," says David McGraham, marvelling at the view with his wife Kathy. "This is something I'll remember."

Other visitors come from farther afield. Ludovic Minne of France was about to wrap up two weeks of climbing and hiking in the Pacific Northwest.

"The view is just amazing — really, really beautiful," he said, smiling broadly as he describes watching the sunset from the summit the night before.

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Art goes pop at L.A.'s The Broad

NEW MUSEUM

City's cultural status gets a boost with \$140M space

When he arrived in Los Angeles more than 50 years ago, Eli Broad once said, he found himself in a city without a cultural centre. So the billionaire arts patron decided to build one.

On Sept. 20, that effort took a major step forward with the opening of The Broad, a shining, pop-art-styled museum holding 2,000 works by arguably every important contemporary artist of the past 60 years.

The \$140-million project featuring 50,000 square feet of exhibition space is the most recent accomplishment in Broad's ongoing effort to remake a once seedy section of downtown Los Angeles into the cultural arts centre he has long envisioned.

But more than that, says Joanne Heyler, a veteran curator and the new museum's director, The Broad stands to remake Los Angeles into the nation's contemporary art capital.

"Los Angeles is now a place, a city, where if you're serious about collecting contemporary art, if you're serious about understanding contemporary art, you cannot not come here," she said as she led a recent tour through the museum.

The three-storey building is almost as much a pop-art creation as the numerous works by Andy Warhol, Cindy Sherman, Chris Burden and scores



Clockwise from left: Visitors view Robert Therrien's *Under the Table* at the The Broad, a pop-art-styled museum in downtown Los Angeles that features a unique lobby and a white, honeycombed exterior. RICHARD VOGEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

of others that it contains.

Its unusual appearance, created by Diller Scofidio Renfro, the architectural firm that envisioned New York City's High Line park, features a white, honeycombed "veil" made of fibreglass-reinforced concrete. It's a wrapping that envelops the building from its roof to the ground, providing an en-

closed public sidewalk from which passersby can gaze in at some of the works.

The museum itself sits directly across the street from L.A.'s Museum of Contemporary Art and is next door to the Walt Disney Concert Hall. Inside, the lobby resembles an Apple store, with museum "associates" armed with smart-

phones wandering the floor, checking visitors in and directing them to the nearly two dozen galleries.

Although admission is free, reservations are recommended so visitors can get in at the times they prefer. With works arranged chronologically, first-time visitors are advised to take an escalator to the third



floor, where among the first things they'll see is Jeff Koons' brilliantly colourful Tulips sculpture.

Around the corner will be many of the most influential pop-art works of the 1960s, including Warhol's famous Small Torn Campbell's Soup Can (Pepper Pot) and other prominent pieces by Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg.

From there it's a trip through the pop, abstract and contemporary art worlds of the 1960s, '70s, '80s and '90s, with paintings, sculptures, photographs and other works by the likes of Ed Ruscha, Roy Lichtenstein, Charles Ray and others.

Among the many highlights are Ruscha's heralded Norms La Cienega On Fire painting and Koons' stunning porcelain sculpture of Michael Jackson and his pet chimp Bubbles.

On the first floor, in a darkened gallery, is Ragnar Kjartansson's whimsical performance-art piece *The Visitors*. Displayed on nine video screens, it features musicians playing and singing a brief musical snippet inspired by the group Abba over and over for more than an hour. Among the performers is the Icelandic artist himself, who sits naked in a bathtub, strumming his guitar.

The second floor holds the museum's vault and, thanks to a large porthole, visitors will actually be able to look into it and see works not currently on display. It's a vault being constantly added to, said Heyler, who noted that the museum acquires an average of one new work a week.

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40K

Some 40,000 people made reservations during the first two days they were offered earlier this month, causing the museum's computers to crash.

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TRAVEL NOTES

Adventure discount

Intrepid Travel is offering 20 per cent off its Mayan Expedition departing Nov. 14 if you book before Oct. 31. The trip follows in the footsteps of archeologist Giles Healy to search for unnamed ruins. Machete your way through the jungle, raft forgotten rivers, camp beneath the trees and explore ancient architecture. Now \$2,444. Visit IntrepidTravel.com/theme/expeditions.



Search for lost ruins in Mexico. CONTRIBUTED

Custom cultural tours

New U.K.-based tour operator Battered Suitcase will tailor-make a holiday for you that hits the UNESCO World Heritage Sites and historical cultural destinations on your bucket list on five continents. Tours are created by people with a passion for history and knowledge of the ancient sites, with local guides and private hotels ensuring a personal experience. Visit Battered-Suitcase.com.



The Temple of Heaven, Beijing. CONTRIBUTED

WestJet to the U.K.

WestJet will start flying non-stop to London Gatwick from Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto and St. John's, N.L., next year, from May to October. This is the airline's first non-stop service to London and the only non-stop flight from Winnipeg. The number of flights per week vary per city, with Toronto and St. John's operating once a day. Visit WestJet.com.

DOUG WALLACE



New non-stop flights head to London. VISITBRITAIN.COM



The Yellow Backie, like "couchsurfing on a bike." 2015 YOUTUBE, LLC

RIDESHARE SCHEME

Hitchhike on a bike in Amsterdam

A team of entrepreneurs in Amsterdam has come up with perhaps the most quintessentially Dutch way to hitchhike: on a bike.

The scheme called Yellow Backie is designed with the tourist in mind, offering visitors an authentic way to the see the city and meet a local.

Hitching a ride on the back of a friend's bike is a common way for locals to get around the city.

Described as being akin to "couchsurfing on a bike," the concept invites Amsterdam-

mers who are open to meeting new people to replace the luggage rack on the back of their bike with a yellow rack, provided for free by the bike tour and rental company.

Tourists will be able to identify participants by the distinctive yellow seat and flag down a ride by yelling, "Backie!"

Unlike a cab or Uber ride, however, the principle behind the idea is for visitors to let their driver serve as an impromptu tour guide.

The program is free and is app-free. AFP

Set up Nexus interview at land border, not airport

ON THE MOVE

Answering your Qs on hotel deals, travel ID cards and more

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada



Time to dip into the Metro mailbox and respond to some readers' questions.

How can you ensure you are getting the best deal for your hotel room?

With the number of online travel agencies, wholesalers and consolidators out there, trying to figure out who offers the best value can be overwhelming. And remember it's important to consider the best value versus the best deal because you really do get what you pay for. Your great deal may end up being the room that hasn't been renovated in 10 years that overlooks a brick

wall. Or perhaps your amazingly cheap room might be at a hotel that ends up charging you exorbitant rates for your parking and breakfast. You need to evaluate all of the costs associated with the hotel you are choosing.

For the best value consider booking an accommodation package. Hotels sell their cheapest rooms to companies willing to bury the rate in the cost of a package, which could include breakfast, parking, attractions passes or other value-adds.

Thoughts on a Nexus card?

This bi-national pre-approved customs and immigration pass will help speed you through customs lines on both sides of the border. Apply online and once you are initially approved, you then go for a personal interview. Set up your application interview appointment at a land border, not

the airport. The waiting list at the airport can take a long time whereas land borders can often process you within days.

Are repositioning cruises a good deal?

When ships relocate from one part of the world to sail in another it is called a repositioning cruise. The deals can be as much as 70 per cent off the cost of a regular cruise. However, be prepared for more days at sea, potentially costly one-way flights

and travel to destinations in the shoulder seasons.

What is the difference between a four- and five-star hotel in the Caribbean?

Unlike North American hotels, where stars indicate a level of quality, the star rating systems of Caribbean resorts serve to differentiate the services and amenities offered. Additionally, different tour operators use varied criteria for awarding the stars. For example, the difference between a four-star and five-star hotel may be that one has a tennis court while the other does not. So if you are a beach bum who has never picked up a racket, why not save some money and stay at the lower-rated property?



Repositioning cruises may seem like a great deal, but beware of hidden costs. ISTOCK

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What lies ahead for the Blue Jays

MLB

After all but slaying the Yankees, team controls fate

The Toronto Blue Jays are in the American League East driver's seat. They are the favourites to win the division title and are a virtual lock to make their first playoff appearance in 22 years.

Here are five things to watch as the regular season winds down:

PRICE POSITION

The Blue Jays acquired ace David Price at the trade deadline to handle big games — especially against the New York Yankees — over the playoff push in the second half. With an 8-1 record and 1.95 earned-run average since joining Toronto, he has come as advertised.

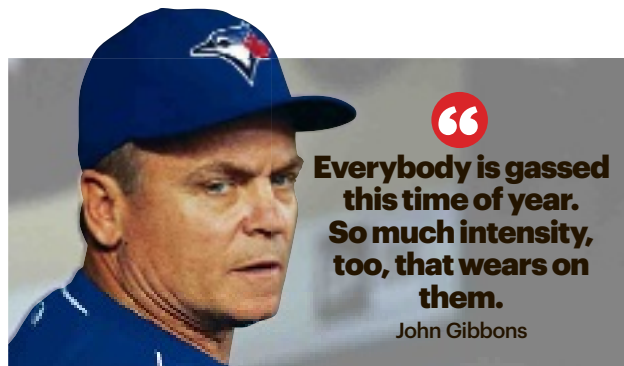
His next start is scheduled for Saturday against the visiting Tampa Bay Rays and he'll get another start next week in Baltimore.

If the Blue Jays fall into a wild-card position, Price could be used in the Oct. 6 game on five days rest. But it's much more likely they'll take the East title and start him in the American League Division Series opener on Oct. 8.

Knuckleballer R.A. Dickey will start against the Rays on Friday night and veteran southpaw Mark Buehrle will close out the homestand on Sunday.

EAST FEAST

It has been an American League East-heavy schedule for the first-place Blue Jays of late



“Everybody is gassed this time of year. So much intensity, too, that wears on them.”

John Gibbons

and they'll continue that trend for the remaining 10 games.

After the home schedule is completed Sunday against the Rays, it's on to Baltimore for four games before wrapping the campaign with three games at Tampa Bay.

The second-place Yankees, who enter play Thursday 3-1/2 games behind the Blue Jays, are home for four-game sets against the Chicago White Sox and Boston Red Sox before closing their season with a three-game series in Baltimore.

REST EASIER

The 162-game regular season is a long one and any time off around this time of year is precious.

The Yankees have

games scheduled every day until their finale Oct.

4. The Blue Jays, who have played more

game than New York, got a break Thursday before kicking off their last home series against Tampa Bay on Friday night.

“That's got to help us, everybody is gassed this time of year,” said Blue Jays manager John Gibbons. “So much intensity too, that wears on them.”

POWER PLAY

Toronto's offence has cooled a bit of late but the team should still finish

first in several offensive categories this season.

The Blue Jays lead the major leagues in runs scored, home runs, slugging percentage and OPS (on-base percentage plus slugging). Toronto also has

three players — Josh Donaldson, Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion — who have reached the 35-homer and 100-RBI plateaus.

It's only the second time in franchise history that three players have accomplished the feat in the same year.

The 1998 Blue Jays boasted a power trio that included Jose Canseco (46 homers, 107 RBIs), Carlos Delgado (38-115) and Shawn Green (35-100).

Donaldson leads the way this year with 39 homers and 120 RBIs. Bautista has 36 homers — one more than Encarnacion — and both have 105 RBIs.

ALDS PLANS

The Blue Jays have an idea of the rotation they'd like to use in the best-of-five ALDS, but they don't want to get too far ahead of themselves.

If they win the division, expect Price to work two games with Dickey and Marcus Stroman likely to get starts as well. If that happens, the Blue Jays would then have to decide whether to go with Marco Estrada or Buehrle for the remaining nod.

The ALDS is a best-of-five affair Oct. 8-14. The American League Championship Series is set for Oct. 16-24 and the World Series — also a best-of-seven series — is Oct. 27-Nov.

4. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



The Rangers' Prince Fielder, right, celebrates with Shin-Soo Choo after hitting a two-run home during the eighth inning on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AL WEST

Rangers complete sweep past the A's

Cole Hamels pitched six innings to earn his fifth consecutive win, Prince Fielder hit his 22nd homer and the Texas Rangers beat the Oakland Athletics 8-1 on Thursday to complete a three-game sweep.

The Rangers moved a season-high 14 games over .500 and extended their lead to 3-1/2 games over the idle Astros in the AL West. Texas heads to Houston to begin a three-game series on Friday.

Adrian Beltre drove in three runs, and Delino DeShields had three hits and two RBIs for Texas.

Hamels (11-8) gave up an unearned run in the second but was otherwise stellar while

THURSDAY In Oakland

8	1
RANGERS	A'S

improving to 5-1 in 10 starts with the Rangers. Hamels allowed four hits, walked three and struck out two.

Josh Reddick singled and scored for Oakland.

The A's have lost five straight and dropped 25 games under .500 for the first time since 1997.

Texas turned four double plays in the first five innings and outscored Oakland 26-10 in the series. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Pirates earn 10,000th win after downing Rockies

Pedro Alvarez hit a go-ahead, three-run homer in the eighth inning, and the Pittsburgh Pirates earned their 10,000th win since joining the National League, beating the Colorado Rockies 5-4 on Thursday.

A day after clinching a playoff spot for the third straight season, the Pirates reached another momentous milestone. They're fifth all-time in NL wins behind San Francisco, Chicago, Atlanta and Los Angeles, according to STATS. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pedro Alvarez
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dodgers trim magic number to four for NL West crown

Chris Heisey hit a grand slam during the Dodgers' six-run fifth inning, and Los Angeles trimmed its magic number to four for the NL West crown and a post-season berth with a 6-3 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks on Thursday.

Los Angeles increased its NL West lead to 7 1-2 games over the Giants, who faced San Diego later.

Clayton Kershaw (15-7) had nine strikeouts while yielding six hits and three runs over five innings. He also had a vehement dugout discussion with Don Mattingly after the manager pulled Kershaw from his shortest start of the season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Go to metronews.ca for more baseball coverage.



Jack Eichel, right, celebrates his goal against the Minnesota Wild with Sabres teammate Johan Larsson on Monday night in St. Paul, Minn. ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Buffalo's redemption

NHL

Top draft pick bears hopes for Sabres to escape bottom

When practice is over, or the game is done, Jack Eichel can go home and be a kid.

Home is Matt Moulson's house, where the 18-year-old Eichel plays — ball hockey, tag, whatever — with Moulson's two children.

"I guess he's eldest son now," jokes Moulson, the veteran Sabre. "He's got a great heart off the ice. He was accepted into the family right away. My wife loves him, my kids love him."

It's good for Eichel not to have to cook, or clean, or do laundry, and to share a ride and to learn the basics of being a pro from Moulson, who once took in John Tavares when the two were teammates with the Islanders.

"It's been good, being about to go home and mess around," said Eichel. "He's got two kids. They're always doing something."

Eichel has enough work cut out for him at the rink.

He is the franchise — the centerpiece of a team that is on the rise, in a city where jobs and pride are returning

in equal parts. By the time his career is done, the hockey-centric, \$200 million HarborCenter village that has popped up around the First Niagara Centre may well end up being called the House that Jack Built.

"Our team is taking a lot of pride in helping rejuvenate this city and rejuvenate this franchise," said Eichel. "This is the next chapter for us, the next chapter for our organization, personnel. We're headed in the right direction."

While destined to be a No. 1 centre through his career, Eichel is slated to be the No. 2 centre this season behind Ryan O'Reilly on a team that is expected to challenge for a playoff spot. Dan Bylsma, who won a Stanley Cup

guiding the Penguins, is in as coach.

The years of losing in Buffalo appear to be over. The Sabres finished last overall and managed to miss out on the Connor McDavid lottery draft pick. But Eichel is far more than a consolation prize, performing through the exhibition season as well as advertised.

"He's only going to get better the more he learns, the more he can figure out what he can do at this level," said Moulson. "You see his confidence growing. He's going to be a big part of our success now and down the road."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NBA

Bosh back on court after blood clot break

Chris Bosh put on a few pounds this summer, in a good way and for a good reason.

And he figures it'll help the next phase of his comeback.

The Miami Heat forward said Thursday that he no longer needs to take blood-thinning medication, which means he can participate fully when training camp opens Tuesday. Bosh missed the final 30 games last season after a

blood clot was diagnosed on his left lung, and has been back in on-court workouts for about two months but not cleared for any contact until now.

"I feel a little bit of urgency," Bosh said. "I don't have much longer to play this game. That's just a fact. I wanted to make sure I had the ability to hit the ground running when the season starts. Most people say, 'Oh,

how's he going to react, he had clots.' I look at it as, I had rest. I had to build back up, but I had rest, mentally and physically."

Bosh took a blood thinner for several months as part of his recovery. Athletes in contact sports typically cannot take blood thinners because of the higher risk of bleeding, a common side effect of such drugs.

His weight was listed as 235

pounds last season, and Bosh said he's now closer to 245 - which, with camp looming, he expects to be temporary because of all the running and conditioning drills. The added muscle, however, will be a plus when it's time to start getting physical around the rim.

"I just wanted to make sure I came in with enough cushion to sustain contact," Bosh said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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RUGBY WORLD CUP

Canadians rotate ahead of Game 2

James Pritchard, Canada's all-time leading scorer, is going to take part in his fourth Rugby World Cup after all.

The 36-year-old Australian-born fullback was not part of Canada's original 31-man roster. But he was added to the squad Thursday to replace Liam Underwood, who suffered a knee injury in Canada's opening 50-7 loss to Ireland on the weekend.

Underwood will miss the rest of the tournament.

"It's unfortunate for Liam to not be able to finish this World Cup as he is a versatile player

for us, having the ability to play 10 and 15 (fly half and fullback) and his goal-kicking abilities," Canadian coach Kieran Crowley said in a statement.

"We've been in discussion with



James Pritchard
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

SHUFFLE

Kieran Crowley has made six changes to his starting lineup against Italy as Canada looks to bounce back from a lopsided opening loss to Ireland.

Despite some good patches of play, the Canadians were put to the sword 50-7 by No. 5 Ireland while an inconsistent Italy was beaten 32-10 by No. 7 France.

James over the last month and he obviously brings a level of experience to the team and he can play a number of positions if called upon."

Canada, ranked 18th in the world, plays No. 15 Italy on Saturday in Leeds, England. Pritchard does not figure in Canada's matchday 23. THE CANADIAN PRESS



IN LONDON NAMIBIANS HOLD ALL BLACKS TO 58

Malakai Fekitoa of New Zealand rumbles past a defender in Thursday's match against Namibia on Thursday in London. Another big score was predicted from a game in which the All Blacks were the 77-point favourites at the Olympic Stadium, but Namibia promised it wouldn't lose by that much and it fulfilled its promise. The Namibians lost by only 58-14, and were proud losers. MIKE HEWITT/GETTY IMAGES

Bigger than ever?

NFL

Steelers QB Roethlisberger off to best-ever statistical start

Heath Miller paused for just a second to consider the question before breaking out into a small smile.

Yeah, it does seem good friend Ben Roethlisberger is still improving a dozen years into a tenure already better than most.

"I think it's undeniably his team and his offence now," Miller said. "I think the offence is tailored to his abilities."

Ones that have been on display during the best start of his career. The 33-year-old Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback already has 720 yards passing through two weeks and was brilliant during last week's 43-18 dismantling of San Francisco, ripping off big play after big play while throwing for three scores, including a touchdown and a two-point conversion to Miller.

"When we were younger we were more of a running team," Miller said. "Now he's our best player and the front office and coaching staff have tried to put players around him so that he can be who he is right now."

And consider this: Roethlisberger put up those numbers

without running back Le'Veon Bell, who caught 83 balls last season, and wide receiver Martavis Bryant, who is out two more weeks while serving a four-game suspension for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

Bell will be back in the lineup against St. Louis on Sunday, giving Roethlisberger and offensive co-ordinator Todd Haley another versatile option.

"He runs routes like he's running the ball," Roethlisberger said. "He's really quick and hard to cover. He's shifty and makes a lot of moves."

St. Louis coach Jeff Fisher has seen Roethlisberger grow up from the sidelines.

"His understanding, his anticipation, his ability to change things on the line of scrimmage, putting them in the best-case scenario on the line of scrimmage, he's just matured," Fisher said.

The Rams and their active defensive front will provide a difficult test. Pittsburgh likely won't start out in the no huddle, but if things bog down early, Haley won't hesitate to turn to Roethlisberger and let him do his thing. That includes staying quiet on the headset.

"You don't want to have him dealing with a distraction," Haley said. "Like I said, when he's playing mentally and physically like he was, let him go."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“When your quarterback is playing at such a high level ... that's an edge that's hard to duplicate.”

Steelers offensive co-ordinator
Todd Haley



Ben Roethlisberger went 21 for 27 for 369 yards and three touchdown tosses last week against the 49ers.

JARED WICKERHAM/GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE BLT Ranch Burgers



After hosting sunset dinner parties for friends and family, Katie Lee, co-host of The Food Network's The Kitchen, compiled her favourite recipes into the Endless Summer Cookbook released this year.

"I made these burgers for a group of friends one afternoon and they pretty much lost their minds," she says. "The ranch dressing is rich and creamy next to the beefy burger with that crispy bacon, lettuce, and tomato."

Makes 4 burgers.

Ingredients

- For the dressing:
- 1 cup (240 ml) mayonnaise
 - 1/2 cup (120 ml) plain yogurt
 - 1/4 cup (60 ml) buttermilk
 - 2 Tbsp minced fresh chives
 - 2 Tbsp minced fresh flat-leaf parsley
 - 1/4 tsp salt
 - 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
 - 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- For the burgers:
- 1 lb (455 g) lean ground beef

- 1 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 8 pieces cooked bacon, cut in half
- 1 ripe tomato, sliced
- Bibb lettuce leaves
- 4 potato buns, buttered and toasted

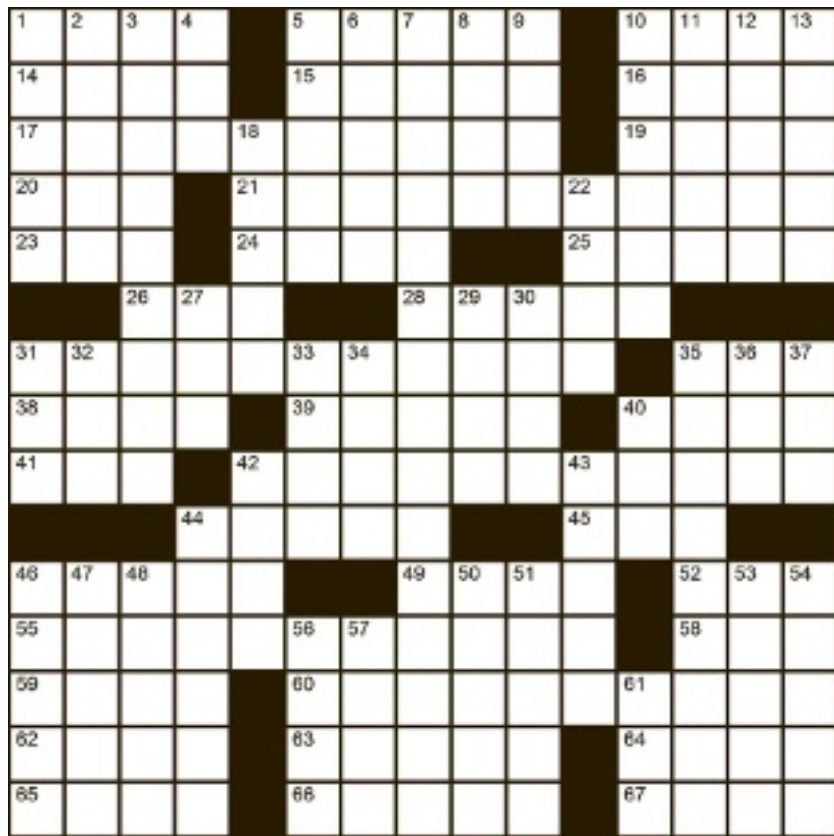
Directions

1. Make the dressing: Combine all the dressing ingredients and mix well.
 2. Make the burgers: Preheat an outdoor grill to medium-high. In a bowl, combine the beef, Worcestershire sauce, egg, salt, and pepper. Shape into four patties. Grill the patties for about 3 minutes per side for medium doneness.
 3. Place each patty on a bun and top with bacon, tomato, lettuce, and a generous dollop of dressing. Serve immediately.
- AFP

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Good Queen __ (Nickname for Elizabeth I, b.1533 - d.1603)
5. Jenny __ (Weight loss program)
10. Ginger cookie
14. Plant-derived gel
15. Moviedom's Mr. McDowall
16. Knitting stitch
17. Looks-like-a-lizard amphibian
19. Stewpot
20. " __ sure be nice if..."
21. Legendary markswoman from Ohio (b.1860 - d.1926) who (apparently) got married in Canada (in Windsor) in 1882: 2 wds.
23. Floral necklace
24. Belonging to Jay Z's wife, fun-style
25. Ms. Aglukkaq (Canada's Environment Minister)
26. Music genre
28. Shrek's kin
31. __ Hawk (Largest hawk of North America that has some rusty plumage)
35. Authorize
38. Heroic verse
39. Reddish-rose dye
40. Automaker of Italy
41. Get the ribbon
42. Canadian businessman Kevin O'Leary's nickname for himself: 2 wds.
44. Rage: 2 wds.
45. Dance tip



- in ballet
46. Sandbank
49. Breakfast side order
52. Prime meridian std.
55. Skillful triumph or feat: 3 mots
58. Motor City org.
59. Stars sci.

60. Fort __, Florida
62. "From __ You" by The Beatles
63. Plains animal
64. Sky bear
65. Ship's front
66. Watchful
67. __ __ (Fargo's locale)

DOWN

1. Mr. Rathbone of classic movies
2. Make merry
3. Persevere: 2 wds.
4. Above Level link
5. Stretch one's neck for a better look
6. __ & The Dayto-

- nas (Surfer music band)
7. National Historic Site of Canada... Grassy homestead attraction in Saskatchewan: 3 wds.
8. Obsession, __ fixe
9. Streetside sand-

- wich sort
10. Bicycle wheel parts
11. Void, in Venice
12. "Over the Rainbow" co-composer Harold
13. Beach: Spanish
18. Cape Breton hometown of The Rankin Family
22. Frothy quaffs
27. Married title
29. Leavin'
30. __ um die Welt (Around the world, in German)
31. Not many
32. Prefix with 'dermis'
33. Wheat __
34. Des Moines locale
35. Beach supervisor
36. Quebec tap fluid
37. Final amt.
40. Backwards
42. Blend
43. Archaic anesthetic
44. Pushcart, perhaps loaded with earth or gravel
46. Certain collectible
47. Grass sprayer
48. __ lunch (Not on the ball)
50. Great enthusiasm [var. sp.]
51. Fragrance
53. Dip for tortillas
54. Fine-tune
56. "Prometheus" (2012) star Idris
57. Tank
61. Horse coat hue

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will be impatient of restriction and intolerant of people who don't live up to your expectations. But be careful who you clash with — you could make some powerful enemies.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Be careful how hard you push yourself today because there is a possibility you might strain yourself if you take on too much. Know what your limits are and stay within them.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The Sun in Libra does wonders for your confidence but other aspects warn you could easily overextend yourself. You have what it takes to win big but first you need to be aware of your shortcomings.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Mars encourages you to say things you may later regret. If you want to avoid unpleasant scenes further down the line you must not lose your temper.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Make sure you think before you speak or act today. Don't assume that because something is amusing to you it will be amusing to everyone else. Practical jokes are a no-no.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Because you are usually such a modest individual it will come as a surprise to some when you reveal your aggressive side today. If you are not getting what you deserve, make a scene. It will be effective.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will clash with someone whose views and opinions you disagree with. Don't back down. It is unlikely you will find common ground, so go all out to win the argument.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It's not often that you get up in front of other people and lay down the law but you will do so today. It annoys you to think that the answer to a major problem is obvious to you but no one else seems able to see it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The time is ripe to make a play for power. It is, of course, possible that you will go too far or expect too much but rather than you make no effort at all.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will react badly to anyone who tries to tell you what to do, even if they have every right to point out your failings or point out the way. Try not to be quite so aggressive.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you make a mistake today it is sure to be a big one. Don't try to cover it up or shift the blame as that will make matters worse. Everyone gets it wrong now and again, even an Aquarius. It's no big deal.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Plan something enjoyable for the weekend, something that takes you out of yourself. Forget about your woes and have a really good time with your friends or your family.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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